

# EMANCIPATION DAY CELEBRATED

## PARADE AND PROGRAM

### Speakers Point to The Advancement Of The Negro

By Rev. W. O. P. Sherman

The seventy-first annual celebration of Emancipation was held at the Second Baptist Church, Houston street, at 1:30 P. M. by the Emancipation Association and Social Clubs Union.

The following program was rendered: Rev. S. F. Anderson sang first hymn, "All Hail The Power of Jesus' Name"; prayer by Rev. M. Riley; selection by the Second Baptist choir; words of welcome on behalf of the Second Baptist Church, Deacon J. M. Walker. Rev. J. L. Adams was presented as master of ceremonies by Rev. D. W. Stevens, vice president of the Emancipation Association. National Negro anthem Scripture lesson Rev. J. R. Wood; remarks, Highest Colored Ranking Officer in the United State Army accept Col. Davis Lieutenant Col. L. A. Carter of Fort Benning, Columbus. Lieut Col. Carter, charmed the audience with his eloquent words and historical facts. He proved to be a hundred per cent soldier. He spoke of the progress but said nothing should take the place of the grace of God. The lieutenant spoke of the loyalty and devotion of the Negro in all wars and since freedom he is rising in sections. He told of the old slave who buried his money and said "dead and buried". Another colored crowd came along and wrote "Arise and Gone." Keep a don't whine, but keep

a going," was his advice to the vast audience who listened with rapt attention from start to finish. Anthem, by Second Baptist choir "I Want To Be More and More Like Jesus." was rendered by the William Singers a noted local group of singers. The audience already keyed up, looked as if the elderly ones would all but shout for joy. Amen's rang out all over the church. The singers had to sing a second selection as an encore "If You See My Savior, Tell Him For Me." The reading of Emancipation Proclamation followed by Florence Monroe. The reading was in pathetic tones and a hush and stillness was evidence in all parts of the

### NEGROES PLAN FOR EMANCIPATION DAY

Program To Be Given At Industrial High School

Negroes of Birmingham will celebrate their freedom from slavery with a program tomorrow at Industrial High School, marking the 71st anniversary of Lincoln's emancipation proclamation. Harry Denman, business manager of First Methodist Church and leader in inter-racial understanding, will deliver an address at 1 p.m. Bishop H. P. Porter of Jackson, Tenn., of the Colored Methodist Church, will be among other speakers. Spirituals and folk songs will be offered by singers from Industrial High School, Miles Memorial College and Payne University.

Raleigh, N. C., News & Observer  
January 2, 1935

### NEGROES OBSERVE EMANCIPATION DAY

Program Commemorates Lincoln's Edict Freeing Those Held in Slavery

About 75 Negroes of Raleigh gathered in Lucille Hunter School yesterday to observe the anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's proclamation that sounded the freedom of everyone held in slavery in this country.

It was on January 1, 1863, that the proclamation was made, and read-

ing of the document was a part of the program yesterday.

Resolving to awaken more interest in the anniversary, the meeting selected officers as follows to plan for an impressive observance next year: Nicholas Lightner, president; Fay May Peace, vice president; Ida M. Dawson, secretary, and Rev. M. C. Wilder, treasurer. Julia Delaney was named chairman of the program committee.

Presiding over the meeting was Rev. M. C. Wilder, and the devotions were led by Rev. V. T. Williams. A vocal solo was rendered by Charles H. Frazier, and Granger Browning read the proclamation by President Lincoln.

A feature of the observance was the reading of three of Langston Hughes' poems by Julia Delaney. An urgent appeal that more interest be awakened in Emancipation Day was sounded by J. H. Browning. Dr. G. T. Jones directed a union choir from various Negro churches of the city.

New York Times

### JAN 2 1935 NEW EMANCIPATION IS URGED ON NEGROES

Organization Here Calls on Them to Cast Off Domination by Other Racial Groups.

The emancipation of Negro members of their respective communities from the domination of other racial groups was advocated yesterday by speakers at an anniversary meeting commemorating the freedom of slaves during the Civil War, held under the auspices of the Sons and Daughters of North Carolina, Inc., at the Imperial Elks Auditorium, 160 West 129th Street. Members of this organization, founded more than ten years ago by former residents of North Carolina living in this city, joined with community leaders from Harlem and neighboring areas in discussing the accomplishments and future prospects of Negroes throughout the country.

The Rev. J. W. Robinson, pastor of Christ Community Church in Harlem, spoke at the close of the afternoon session of the failure of the Negro people to support celebrations dealing with matters pertaining to their own progress, in their desire to join with other racial groups.

Conditions among the Negro residents of Harlem were discussed by the Rev. William Lloyd-Imes, minister of St. James Presbyterian

Church, 141st Street and St. Nicholas Avenue. Giving credit to the church organizations for developing community leadership, Mr. Imes denounced the investments of various groups in amusement places, liquor and gambling resorts of the community, which are detrimental to the progress of the race. Others who took part in the program were Ransom B. Bennett, president of the organization, who presided; Dr. J. W. Brown, pastor of Mother Zion Church; Dr. Julia Coleman-Robinson, who discussed the progress of Negro women since the emancipation; Dr. James Edward Bell of Provident Hospital, Baltimore, and Fred Odems, president-elect of the organization.

High Point, N. C. Enterprise  
January 1, 1935

### JANUARY 1, 1863

THREE score and twelve years ago today Abraham Lincoln brought forth on this continent an Emancipation Proclamation, guaranteeing liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.

To say that this was the greatest event in American history is hardly to overstate the case. Washington won liberty from England, but Lincoln won liberty from barbarism. Wilson made the world safe for an idealism which it immediately repudiated; Lincoln made the world safe for a race which is destined to win the respect of the world.

Most Southerners pay little attention to this special significance of January 1, 1863. There are unfortunately those who still fight the Civil war all over again in their dreams, who would impose again upon the Negro an actual slavery which they can now but simulate.

Carve it deep in the annals of the South as well as in the archives of the North: On New Year's Day of 1863, Abraham Lincoln gave to the colored people of America a new life. It cost him his own life. But as the silent thousands filed by for a last look at

their slain president, an old Negro woman lifted her little boy up over the coffin and cried, "Take a long look at that man, honey—he died for you."

The Negroes of America pay to him their debt of gratitude only as they justify his hopes for them. The white people of the nation leave barbarism behind only as they cultivate for themselves the simple qualities of his great heart.

New York Herald-Tribune

### JAN 2 1935 Harlem Marks Emancipation At 7-Hour Fete

Enterprise Female Band, 20 Pieces, and Score of Orators Exchange Themes

Jim Crow Spirit Decried

\$3,000,000 Church Outlay Contrasted to Cabaret Bill

Two hundred members of the Sons and Daughters of North Carolina, Inc. met yesterday afternoon and evening in the auditorium of the Imperial Elks Association, 160 West 129th Street, to commemorate the freeing of the slaves, on January 1, 1863, with songs and oratory and a liberal number of selections by Herman Wallace's twenty-piece Enterprise Female Band.

R. B. Bennett, large and sonorous president of the Negro organization, was chairman of the celebration, which lasted seven hours and concluded that the spirit of Jim Crow was not dead in the nation. After long dissertations on parenthood, immortality and God, J. Finley Wilson, grand exalted ruler of the Independent Benevolent Protective Order of Elks of the World (Negro), took the stand during a breathless spell for the jazz band at midnight and matched his forensic abilities with those of a score of speakers who had preceded him.

Happy New Year, Amen  
"Good afternoon, everybody," said Mr. Bennett, as the meeting started off so soon after New Year's Eve that scarcely fifty persons were present. "Good afternoon and a Happy New Year."  
"Amen!" called a woman from the rear, startlingly. "Happy New Year."



to you," the more restrained members of the audience called back.

Then they sang "America," and Mr. Bennett, austere in wing collar and frock coat, called on Henry R. Newble, poet laureate of the Elks, to recite "an original poem." Mr. Newble was not present, so the choir from Mother Zion Church, 137th Street between Lenox and Seventh Avenues sang "Onward to Victory."

Then Walter A. Bell, chairman of the general committee, announced that the programs which were on sale for 15 cents at the opening of the meeting had been reduced to 10 cents and that any one who had already purchased might get his or her nickel back. He then announced: "The next number will be another selection by the Mother Zion Church Choir called—uh," he consulted his program, "special selection."

The Rev. Dr. J. W. Brown, pastor of the Mother Zion Church, said a few words about the dependency of material progress on moral and spiritual foundations, following which the Rev. William Lloyd-Imes, minister of St. James Presbyterian Church, 141st Street and St. Nicholas Avenue, was introduced as the main speaker of the afternoon.

#### Whatever Harlem Is or Is Not

"Whatever Harlem is or is not," said Mr. Lloyd-Imes, "it is surely a vast social experiment. It remains now only for Harlem's citizens of color—and we people of color outnumber all others here—to utilize the talents which have been given them. The Negro is fundamentally a religious race, but that does not tell the whole story. It would be nearer the truth to say the Negro has a genius of a rare sort for religious experience."

"Harlem has by all conservative estimates a Negro population of well over 250,000. It is commonly asserted that the Negro has too many churches and wastes his money trying to support edifices that he cannot afford. But the critics make no mention of the other enterprises—hooch joints, pool rooms, gambling halls, speakeasies, disreputable dance halls and motion pictures, many of which though not all, cater to the basest of human passions."

"There is about \$3,000,000 invested in Harlem churches while, on the other hand, the investment in illegal places runs to three or four or perhaps ten times that amount for wholly non-productive and confessedly debauching institutions."

"Our churches are behind business enterprises. Not the old kind of business practiced once by the white world that went in for big profits at any cost but for a business that puts service first and in which profits will come to those that serve the best."

"All right!" sung out a man in the back of the room.

"So be it!" cried a woman.

"Tell them sure!" Mr. Lloyd-Imes was urged.

"That's true!"

#### What Made Lincoln Great

Miss Barbara Cooper, an Elk's scholarship student, who had memorized the gestures and who wore pig-tails, recited an essay she had written on "Lincoln and the Constitution." She asserted that the Great Emancipator had achieved success "through a digest of the Bible, 'Aesop's Fables,' 'Robinson Crusoe,' and such whole-some reading."

## What Negroes Are Doing

BY OSCAR W. ADAMS

On Jan. 1 the celebration of the issuance of the emancipation proclamation was held at the Industrial High School, Birmingham, when more than 1,000 persons attended the conference of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in Alabama. Bishop H. P. Porter, presiding over the conference, was scheduled to deliver the address, but because of illness could not appear and Dr. S. S. Washington, pastor of Thirdgood C. M. E. Church, Birmingham, delivered the chief address. The address covered a large way the activities of the Negro people in America.

Dr. P. S. Moten, of the Emancipation Celebration Association presided. Rev. W. E. Wills read the proclamation and introduced Dr. Washington.

Other speakers were Harry Denman, Mrs. C. W. Brooks, Dr. E. W. Taggart, Dr. J. W. Goodgame, Dr. John Adams, Thomas Woods, and Miss Sibyl Moses.

Miles Memorial College furnished music, and Miss Corietta Mitchell sang a solo.

The civic associations encouraged the attendance and other organizations cooperated in making the celebration a success.

This celebration left a fine impression upon the hearers and interest is keen for cooperation and worthwhile efforts for 1935.

New Orleans, La., Times-Picayune, January 2, 1935

## EMANCIPATION IS MARKED IN CITY

### Negroes Observe Anniversary With Parades, Meetings

Celebrations to mark the 71st anniversary of the signing of the emancipation proclamation were held by negroes of New Orleans Tuesday. Two parades and several meetings at which white and negro speakers were heard were held during the day.

The principal meeting was held at the Freedmen's auditorium, Audubon and Colapissa streets. This was preceded by a parade of several hundred from Shakspeare Park. Speakers at the meeting included Dr. J. A. Bacon, president of Leland university, and Ellie Schill, representing war veterans.

Resolutions proposing the creation of a negro division of the ERA were adopted at the meeting. The resolutions

proposed that negro clerks, stenographers and superintendents be employed for this division. Resolutions requesting the school board to relieve congestion in negro schools and citing the need for additional negro playgrounds also were adopted.

Music for the meeting was furnished by the Leland university chorale. A second parade was held preceding an observance of the anniversary at the First African Baptist church, 2216 Third street. Several bands participated in the parade and speakers heard at the meeting included Dr. W. R. Adams, who delivered the emancipation sermon; Rev. B. D. Ellis, J. C. Nicholas and A. W. Washington.

A second meeting at the First African Baptist church was held Tuesday night with an address by Rev. A. P. Shaw, editor of the Southwestern edition of the Christian Advocate. The services were conducted by Rev. Roger W. Coleman.

An evening service also was held Tuesday night at the Freedmen's auditorium at which a sermon was preached by Rev. M. W. Rivers. Rev. William Jackson, president of the Louisiana Freedmen's Association, presided at both the afternoon and evening meetings.

### EMANCIPATION DAY

Plans are now being formulated by The Indianapolis Recorder with the co-operation of the Mount Zion Baptist church for a city-wide Emancipation Day celebration, February 3.

Every man, woman and child possessed of an iota of race pride and patriotism is expected to contribute enthusiastically to the grand success of this occasion. That, most assuredly, is very much as it should be.

If there ever was a time when the Three Beautiful Negro Queens, our people should begin to form the habit of wholeheartedly manifesting desired interest in their own historical background, it is now!

However, it is not to be truthfully said that colored Americans are unmindful of the vital fact that to us, Emancipation Day should be the greatest of all Negro holidays.

That too, is something to be proud of.

For to be incapable of appreciating such an occasion, would be to render ourselves unworthy of the freedom from the shackles of slavery and serfdom as handed down to our group by means of Abraham Lincoln's Imperishable Proclamation.

Such an attitude is unquestionably beneath the dignity of any proud race; we should never be found wanting in the matter of taking just pride in events as intimately associated with our individual history as is represented by the Emancipation Proclamation.

That being the case, the colored citizens of this community should do their full part to make the projected Emancipation celebration program in Indianapolis the gala success it deserves to be.

A nationally observed Negro holiday is one of many things needed to fire our people with more of race pride; bring members of the group closer together.

There isn't a more fitting time to effect such a demonstration than on Emancipation Day.

Oakdale, La., American

June 7, 1935

## NEGROES PLAN JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

The Negroes will celebrate the 19th of June in a big way. The Missouri Pacific Boosters of Alexandria will make all arrangements. The picnics will be held at the colored school park where a big base ball game will be played by two of the best local clubs we have in the state. The Boosters Club consist of 2 brass bands and on arrival of No. 101 at 12:15, a real parade will take place about 1:30

which will start out from near the Missouri Pacific Station. The parade will pass through the main streets of the city. Don't fail to have the children out on time to see the Ray Man, the Alabama Coon with his Banjo, and

the Three Beautiful Negro Queens. There will be various attractions throughout the day. Orator of the day will be Scipis A. James, of Little

Rock, Ark., one of the leading colored attractions of the South. There will be a big musical program at the Shiloh Baptist Church. At night there will also be a dance given at the Benson Hall, music by the M. P. Band.

White citizens are cordially invited out to witness this attraction. The Honorable Mayor extends welcome to the Missouri Pacific Boosters and their friends that will come to Oakdale in great numbers.

Committee: Barney Williams, R. W. Needham, J. B. Cross.

Geo. W. Lofton, District Chief Booster of Alexandria.



# Emancipation Celebration - 1935

## PRE-INDEPENDENCE DAY—

A group of distinguished citizens of the black race assembled last Sunday under interesting and intelligent auspices at one of the local schools to celebrate Pre-Independence day. The Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth articles of the Constitution were read and appropriately explained by an eminent member of the bar.

The point which makes this particular occasion the subject of editorial comment is the fact that the three articles referred to have been completely abandoned in the South insofar as their enforcement affects the people whose condition prompted their enactment. Article 13 of the Constitution reads as follows: "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime, whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction. Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

This article was enacted in 1865 and was for the purpose of establishing freedom of theman slaves. Article 14: "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the state wherein they reside. No state shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States, nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty or property, without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law."

It is needless to say that the spirit of these two Articles is not only violated but has ceased to exist in several of the states of the Union. The attitude upon the part of the law-enforcing agencies themselves has been such as to sanction and by such sanction to make effective the complete annulment of these two Articles of the Constitution.

Thus the 15th Amendment to the Constitution: "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude," has suffered the same fate at the hands of traitors to the Constitution as the two preceding Articles.

This in turn means that America can only celebrate a half independence. Her absolute and complete freedom is smothered and circumscribed by hate, hypocrisy and prejudice. Independence of mind, action, economic, social and political freedom, which should be the property of every citizen, is a lie upon its face and a mockery to our boasted intelligence and Christianity.

## Kelly Miller to Talk at Emancipation Meet

Memphis, Tenn., Commercial Appeal  
August 4, 1935

Announcement of the annual celebration of the 73rd anniversary of the signing of the Emancipation proclamation to be held at Riverside park August 8 was made this week by President George Irwin of the Improved Worker's Aid club. Chief speaker at the program will be Dr. Kelley Miller, noted educator and writer of Howard university, whom the program committee said has promised definitely to be here. Dr. Miller contributes weekly columns to The American.

Wilbur J. Hardaway, former alderman, is assisting with arrangements. A majority of local civic, fraternal and religious organizations are expected to participate in the celebration. The program will include field events and patriotic addresses and numbers.

This celebration, observed on various days in different sections of the country but the first part of August locally, is in remembrance of the signing of the document to end slavery by President Abraham Lincoln on January 1, 1863. The difference in anniversary dates is based on the fact that its provisions did not become effective in all parts of the South simultaneously.

Nashville, Tenn. Banner  
August 4, 1935

Springfield—"Emancipation Day" will be observed in Springfield next Thursday with a huge program planned by Springfield colored people. The annual parade through the city streets will be a feature of the all-day program. The night meeting at City Reservoir Park on West Fifteenth Avenue will feature an address by Dr. M. R. Epps on "We Are

## NEGROES TO CELEBRATE THEIR EMANCIPATION

### Pastors Deliver Special Sermons as Program Opens

C. A. Scott, Atlanta, general manager of Scott News Syndicate, negro news gathering agency, will be a visitor in Memphis this week to participate in the observance of the Tri-State Emancipation Jubilee, starting today.

In observance of Emancipation Sunday today, preachers in all negro churches of the city will deliver special sermons. Former slaves will be introduced from the pulpits. The celebration will end with an inspirational mass meeting Thursday night at Booker T. Washington High School.

Other negro visitors will be W. L. Porter, Knoxville attorney publisher; Roscoe Dunjee, Oklahoma City, chairman of the board of trustees of Langston University; Bishop E. Thomas Demby, Little Rock, the only negro Episcopal bishop in the United States; and John R. Patterson, Atlanta, assistant general manager of the Scott News Syndicate.

President Fred D. Patterson, brother of John Patterson, and head of the Tuskegee Institute, announced yesterday that he will be unable to be here.

Roscoe Conkling Simmons of Chicago, former Memphian, will be the principal speaker at the inspirational mass meeting. The visitors will be toasted at a reception on Wednesday night at the Plantation Grill.

Clarkesville, Tenn., Chronicle  
August 6, 1935

## NEGROES PLAN FOR AUGUST 8

### Parade and Barbecue at Noon—Many Expected

Hundreds of colored people, residents of the city, county and surrounding districts, augmented by hundreds of former residents from Louisville, Kentucky, Cincinnati, Ohio, Indianapolis, Indiana and way stations are planning a giant celebration here Thursday, August 8 in the annual observance of Emancipation Day.

An excursion train from Louisville and Cincinnati will bring hundreds from throughout Kentucky to renew old acquaintances and visit their families. Several busses from Indianapolis will bring scores from that territory.

The headquarters for the excursions will be at the Roberts, Ivie and Vance funeral home, Franklin street. The celebration of the anniversary of the Burial association is in connection with the emancipation celebration.

The highlight of the day will be a giant parade which will wend its way through the residential and business sections of the city. All churches, schools and fraternal organizations are expected to be represented by floats in the parade. Scores of privately owned cars will be decorated for the procession. A band will play martial music for the parade. The line of march has not been definitely decided upon but it was assured today that it would pass through all the streets of the downtown sector.

The parade will form at the funeral home on Franklin street at 12 o'clock. All entrants in the parade are asked to be at the formation point by 11:15 so that proper formation may be attained.

Following the parade the group will go to the Masonic hall in New Providence where a barbecue will be served. During the afternoon there will be entertainment and dancing. Music will be furnished by the Pepper Shakers.

During the afternoon and into the night the celebration will continue. There are expected to be several brief addresses during the early afternoon program.

Macon, Ga., News  
August 5, 1935

## Midsouth Negroes Hold Celebration

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Aug. 5. (AP)—Negroes of Memphis and the mid-South section continued their celebration of the tri-state emancipation jubilee here today.

Yesterday services at 70 Negro churches attended by 10,000 Negroes were devoted to ex-slaves. About 25 of approximately 300 ex-slaves living in Memphis were accorded special and historical lines stressed the opportunity given the Negro since the emancipation proclamation during the War Between the States.

Perhaps the oldest ex-slave in the Memphis territory is Henry Winfield, who claims to be 106 years old and says he served as bodyguard for Jefferson Davis, president of the Confederate States of America. Winfield was too feeble to attend any of the services, but his loyalty to his master was extolled from several pulpits.

Memphis, Tenn., Commercial Appeal  
August 6, 1935

## NEGROES CELEBRATING

### Third Day of Emancipation Jubilee Will Be Observed With Jamboree

Marking the third day of the Tri-State Emancipation Jubilee, Memphis negroes tonight will hold a jamboree at the Paradise Grill, Beale and Hernando. More than 1,000 are expected to attend.

The jubilee is being held on the 72nd anniversary of the freeing of Tri-State slaves. About 700 visitors will be in the city this week. The celebration will wind up with an inspirational mass meeting Thursday night at Booker T. Washington High School.

Funeral services were held yesterday for one of the oldest and best known ex-slaves living in Memphis, William Cottrell, 95, who died Sunday. He was born in Marshall County, Miss., on the old Cottrell plantation and served as a corporal in the Confederate Army. He assisted in the establishment of Rust Negro College at Holly Springs.



Paris, Tenn., Parisian  
August 2, 1935

### EMANCIPATION DAY.

Next Thursday in Tennessee the colored population will celebrate Emancipation Day, in commemoration of the abolishing of slavery.

Slavery was abolished by the 13th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution. The amendment was ratified by three-fourths of the states and declared in full force December 18th, 1865. Before this time, however, slavery had already been abolished in Tennessee and some other Southern states. Tennessee's act of the assembly took effect August 8th. Other states took effect on other dates.

Accordingly, the celebration next Thursday is not south-wide. It applies only in Tennessee on that date. This has always confused some who have not searched out the history of Emancipation Day.

Joe Mosby, the former well-known Paris colored man with the bright complexion, who used to be an authority on all matters concerning the colored folk, always claimed that December 18th was the correct day to celebrate as Emancipation Day. He recognized August 8th, however, as the day of celebration but insisted that this day was fixed in Tennessee because the negroes did not have enough clothes to celebrate in December when it was cold weather.

Anyhow the colored population will carry out its annual custom and have a great time of it next Thursday, August 8th, even if there's no place to go and nothing much to do.

Charlotte, N. C., News

August 2, 1935

### Beale Street Will Have "Emancipation Jubilee"

Memphis, Tenn., Aug. 2.—(P)—Beale street, playground of the southern negro, will ring with merry-making next week as negroes gather here to celebrate the 72nd anniversary of their freedom from slavery.

The "emancipation jubilee" will get underway Sunday and more than 700 negroes are expected from the mid-south. A large number of a group of approximately 300 former slaves now living in Memphis will participate.

Mass meetings, a "jamboree," barbecues, and receptions will be held throughout the negro section of the city. Negroes who have gained prominence in educational and professional work have been invited as principal speakers.

Clarksville, Tenn., Chronicle  
August 8, 1935

### Negroes Observe Emancipation Day

A giant parade, including floats of schools, fraternal orders and churches wended its way through Clarksville streets at noon today, disbanded at the Masonic Hall in New Providence where the colored people of the city, county and surrounding territories will celebrate the annual observance of Emancipation Day.

A barbecue is planned at noon. A brief speaking program will follow the dinner and there will be dancing and entertainment throughout the afternoon and into the night.

Knoxville, Tenn., Journal

August 9, 1935

## NEGROES FETE EMANCIPATION

### 5,000 Join in Festivities at Chilhowee Park.

Approximately 5,000 Negroes assembled at Chilhowee park last night to participate in festivities marking the seventy-third anniversary of the emancipation of slaves in East Tennessee.

In charge of the Emancipation day celebration were officials of the Negro American Legion post in Knoxville, the Wheatley branch of the YWCA, the Payne Avenue nursery and the Knoxville Colored orphanage.

A baseball game yesterday afternoon began the festivities, followed by a picnic supper and a dance last night. Bobby Grant's orchestra of Miami furnished music for the dance.

Prizes marked a highlight in the Emancipation day schedule, some awarded for athletic prowess and others for the largest family and the oldest couple at the celebration.

The proclamation freeing Negroes in East Tennessee was issued on August 8, 1862.

### HOW MUCH IS SUITABLE?—

In allocating \$1,200,000 for the central exposition of the Texas Centennial at Dallas the United States Texas Centennial Commission said:

"The United States Commission also desires that from this amount a suitable sum may be devoted to a distinctive recognition of the progress and development of the Negro in America."

How much is "a suitable sum?" Is it any amount that United States Centennial Commissioner Callen F. Thomas may think sufficient? Was the amount left thus indefinite in order to be able to enlarge a minimum

amount which the United States Commission had in mind? Or was this the usual gesture of calling the Negro's name so as not to seem to the world to completely ignore him, while at the same time leaving it discretionary as to how far he shall be recognized?

One thing is certain. Dallas having received \$800,000 less than she asked for, there will be much temptation and lots of pressure, too, to make the smallest possible amount "a suitable sum" for Negroes. What can we do about it?

Probably not a great deal; but the commission at least has left to Texas Negroes a fighting stand. It says that there must be "distinctive recognition of the progress and development of the Negro in America."

Manifestly there can be no distinctive recognition of Negroes on fifteen cents. It will take a sizeable sum to be "a suitable sum" for this purpose.

I am confident, however, that from this point forward Texas Negroes must press their own claims with regard to what is a "suitable sum." Nobody can be expected to do this adequately for us. If we indicate that we shall be satisfied with a hot-dog stand as "distinctive recognition of the progress and development of the Negro in America," then a hot-dog stand is just about all we shall get.

But, if Texas Negroes really get behind and actually fight for the program which Dr. W. R. Banks and his Negro Centennial Commission will advance, then there is reason to hope that Negroes may have in fact distinctive recognition at the Texas Centennial in 1936.



MEET YOUR FRIENDS AT THE

72nd Anniversary

# EMANCIPATION CELEBRATION

of Negro Progress

Thurs., September 26, 1935

10 A. M. to 12 P. M. 8-31-35

CONVENTION HALL

34th & Spruce Streets

Three sessions are to be held during the day.  
One ticket admits to all.

## ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

10. A. M.—Principal address by Dr. T. Arnold Hill, Acting Executive Secretary-National Urban League, New York City
- 3 P. M.—Principal Address by Dr. Eugene Kinckle Jones, Adviser on Negro Affairs, Department of Commerce; Mr. Charles E. Hall, Specialist-Negro Statistics, Census Department, Washington, D. C., presiding
- 8 P. M.—GRAND MASS MEETING—A Great Program—A Wonderful Brass Band—Fine Music—Magnificent Demonstrations

The greatest crowd that has ever been assembled under one roof in Philadelphia will be seen on Thursday evening, September 26th, 1935, at Convention Hall. Already 12,000 tickets have been disposed of.

Any CLUB, CHURCH or individual is entitled to take as many tickets (not less than 100) as can be disposed of by applying for terms at the

Citizens & Southern Bank and Trust Company  
19TH & SOUTH STREETS

*This is the People's Celebration  
Follow The Crowd*

EVERY BODY WILL BE AT THE 72ND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION CONVENTION HALL — SEPT. 26TH

At 8 P. M. You Will Meet Your Friends  
From Everywhere

## CITIZENS COMMITTEE OF ONE HUNDRED

R. R. WRIGHT, Sr. General Chairman  
REV. W. P. STEVENSON, General Secretary  
REV. W. L. JOHNSON, Chairman-Program Committee  
MRS. PEARL C. DWELLE, Chairman-Ladies Auxiliary  
EMANUEL C. WRIGHT, Assistant General Manager

GENERAL ADMISSION : : 50 CENTS

For Information:

Citizens and Southern Bank & Trust Co.  
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BOOTH SPACES FOR SALE

TERRE HAUTE, IND  
STAR

SEP 23 1935

EMANCIPATION DAY  
WILL BE OBSERVED

Terre Haute's Negro population will celebrate Emancipation Day today.

The program, opening at 10 o'clock this morning, will be continued until 7 o'clock tonight at Memorial Stadium under the direction of Alexander Hatwood, president of the Emancipation Day Association. Music, sports and a formal program in commemoration of the Negro's freedom from slavery will be included among the events.

"The New Deal and the Negro," cross section of the colored man's place under Democratic political domination, will be discussed by four speakers drawn from the leading political parties. Two Republican and two Democratic speakers will present views on the subject.

The Rev. B. C. Winchester will preside at the formal program opening at 2 o'clock. The invocation will be delivered by the Rev. W. D. Shannon and Wesley Lyda, local educator, will read Lincoln's proclamation of emancipation.

A city-wide chorus of 100 voices directed by Mrs. Ruth Connley will sing. Negro spirituals will be presented by Evangeline Harris.

A baseball game between selected teams representing the north and south sections of the city will be played at noon. Admittance to the grounds is free and transportation to the Stadium will be furnished colored men and women over 60 years old.

7,000 Join 72nd  
Anniversary of  
Emancipation

President Roosevelt Sends  
Message to Philadelphia Celebration,

ETHIOPIA'S CONSUL  
MUTE AT MEETING

Haitian Minister Displays Flag.

PHILADELPHIA — With 7,000 persons present, good-will delegates from nineteen States and some of the group's outstanding leaders and experts among the speakers, the celebration of the seventy-second anniversary of the Emancipation and Negro Progress was observed here, Thursday.

The celebration, promoted by R. R. Wright and others, included a two-session economic conference. Mayor J. Hampton Moore welcomed the assembly and good-will delegates, representing governors from various States, at the evening session. A message was read from President Roosevelt at this time.

## F. D. Sends Greetings

In his message President Roosevelt stated:

"I take great pleasure in extending my hearty greetings to you who meet tonight to commemorate the anniversary of a very outstanding event.

"Before he set his signature

to the Emancipation Proclamation President Lincoln said, 'I can assure you that the subject is on my mind, by day and night, more than any other. Whatever shall appear to be God's will, I will do.' Some days later the President in announcing the proclamation to the world invoked 'the considerate judgment of mankind and the gracious favor of Almighty God.'

"I congratulate you on the fine progress the race has made in so many directions, and I feel confident that in this time of stress you will labor to the limit of your powers, in co-operation with those of your fellow citizens whose respect you have won."

"In continuing, I hope you may fulfill the high hopes envisaged by Lincoln."

## Special Stamp Considered

C. B. Eilenburger, third assistant postmaster general, white, in bringing greetings from Washington, reviewed the progress the group has made during the past seventy years.

Calling attention to the matter of a special stamp to commemorate our progress which Mr. Wright and his associates have been urging for some time, Mr. Eilenburger stated that the post office department has this matter under consideration. He was introduced by the Rev. Marshall L. Shepard.

## \$220,000,000 in Churches

Mayor Moore estimated the wealth of the race at about \$3,000,000,000 with 80,000 business establishments and 800,000 homes. Two hundred and twenty million dollars of our wealth, he said, was invested in churches.

## Ethiopia's Consul Mute

The Ethiopian consul general, John H. Shaw, white, New York, listed to make an address, choose to limit his participation to just being present on the platform. Mr. Shaw stated to a reporter that the grave situation in the Ethiopian affairs made caution necessary.

Ethiopia was also represented by Emory Ross, white, executive secretary of the American Committee on the Ethiopian Crisis, an interracial organization with headquarters in New York.

Mr. Ross, who spent many years in Ethiopia and who is a personal friend of Emperor Haile Selassie, declared that the ruler and his subjects are "ready to die as free men rather than live as subjects of a conquering people."

## Haiti Displays Flag

A feature of the evening program was the display of a Haitian flag by the Haitian minister, Albert Blanchet. The diplomat read a letter of greetings from the president of the republic, which he characterized as the first colored republic to fight for its freedom.

Other speakers were: President

Arthur Howe of Hampton Institute; the Rev. D. W. Henry, master of ceremonies; Mrs. J. H. Dwelle, chairman of the women's committee, and Representative Mercer Burrell of New Jersey, who presented Mr. Wright with an autographed portrait of Governor Hoffman. A large number of booths, representing local business establishments made up an exhibit in the entrance of Convention Hall where the meeting was held.



TERRE HAUTE, IND.  
STAR

SEP 24 1935

# EMANCIPATION DAY OBSERVED

**Terre Haute Negroes Mark 73  
Years of Freedom—Pay  
Honor to Lincoln.**

Seventy-three years of development in American citizenship were celebrated yesterday by 2,000 Terre Haute Negroes as they crowded Memorial Stadium for a program marking the anniversary of their freedom from slavery.

The memory of Abraham Lincoln, a tall Illinois rail-splitter who signed the presidential proclamation of emancipation Sept. 22, 1862, was invoked by speakers as they inspected the status of their race under a Democratic "new deal."

Nor did they forget that Lincoln was not a Democrat.

Grace Wilson Evans, plain-spoken fighter for Negro progress in Vigo County, lashed the Democratic administration in her address delivered as one of a series of partisan discussions of "The New Deal and the Negro." William H. Jackson, another Republican speaker, followed Mrs. Evans in her denunciation of the Roosevelt administration's abandonment of constitutional government.

Democratic speakers sent here by the state committee to defend the party were Henry R. Wilson, deputy attorney general; Dr. Benjamin Osborn, special investigator for Marion County Commissioners' office and F. B. Ransom of Indianapolis member of the board of the School for the Blind.

The program, opened at 10 o'clock at Memorial Stadium, was concluded Monday evening after a feature baseball game between selected colored teams, and a musical program.

The Rev. B. C. Winchester presided at the formal program late in the afternoon. The invocation was delivered by the Rev. W. D. Shannon. The emancipation proclamation was read by Wesley Lyda, post graduate student at Indiana State Teachers College.

Negro spirituals were sung by Evangeline Harris, local leader in Negro community activities. Music also was presented by a selected chorus of 100 voices directed by Mrs. Ruth Connley.

## B'ham and Gadsden Celebration Jan. 1st

EMANCIPATION CELEBRATION  
AT I. H. S., JANUARY 1, 1936,  
11:00 O'CLOCK SHARP

BIRMINGHAM. The Emancipation Association of Birmingham has perfected its program and celebration for the 71 years of progress made by the American Negro who was officially set free in 1865.

The speakers for the occasion: Address by Robert Durr, Publisher of the BIRMINGHAM WEEKLY REVIEW. Main address by Professor Henningburg, Director of Personnel, Tuskegee Institute, Dr. John W. Goodgame, pastor of Sixth Avenue Baptist Church, will respond to Mr. Henningburg's address in behalf of the citizens of Birmingham. Music will be furnished by chorus from Greater Payne University and Industrial High School.

Loving cups awarded will be announced for the twelve ministers having received the largest number of nominations, as being the twelve greatest negro ministers in Birmingham. This feature of the program is sponsored by the Birmingham WEEKLY REVIEW.

William McAlpine, president of the State Federation of Civic Leagues, will tell the story of the league movement to bring about the Second Emancipation.

Fayetteville, N. C., Observer  
December 31, 1935

### NEGROES CELEBRATE EMANCIPATION DAY

There will be a celebration of the 72nd anniversary of the emancipation proclamation at St. Luke A. M. E. church tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock under the auspices of the Ministerial Alliance of Fayetteville, Rev. J. L. Stevens, president, Rev. C. E. Morment, secretary.

### A FITTING OBSERVANCE OF EMANCIPATION DAY

The 73rd anniversary of the Emancipation proclamation finds the beneficiary thereunder at grips with serious problems.

Discrimination, disfranchisement, lynching, jim crowism and peonage dog his footsteps, along the road of progress, like the baying hounds of the day of slavery.

Many Negro leaders hopefully expected that the "New Deal" would prove a new emancipation for America's most outstanding forgotten men and women. Opinions vary as to whether the new order has meant anything at all to Negroes. Be this as it may, the fact looms that if any benefits have come, they have assumed the proportion of crumbs rather than as an equitable share of the whole loaf.

There must be a way out, however, and Negroes themselves must find that way assisted by sympathetic and liberal white Americans. They can expect no new emancipation proclamation to break the social, civic, political and economic chains which fetter them.

The leadership among the group must quit bickerings, jealousies and strife and work together to effect a program which will lead to a solution of the problems which threatened the welfare and well being of the race.

A solemn resolution to close ranks and formulate such a program would be a fitting observance of the 73rd anniversary of the Emancipation proclamation. It would also be an eloquent tribute to the immortal Lincoln who issued the proclamation and blotted out the stain of chattel slavery.

Planet 12-28-35

Dr. J. L. Stevens



N. C., Sentinel  
1, 1936

## 'Emancipation of Intellect' Is Theme Of Emancipation Day Address Here

By A. A. MAYFIELD

The Emancipation of the Intellect" was the subject of a powerful address delivered by Franklin Walter Williams, local attorney and president of the Old North State Bar Association at the First Baptist Church today at 11 a.m., during the observance of the twenty-third anniversary of the emancipation proclamation, issued by President Abraham Lincoln.

The observance this year was one of great inspirational value, with an address that stimulated effort at individual development along intellectual lines, and the use of talents developed to personal and group advancement, which must also reflect credit upon the race as a whole.

Thrilling music punctuated the program, selections being rendered by Miss Evelyn Williams and W. Rogers Price and the Radio Four.

Another fine contribution to the program was the original poem by Miss Constance Rogers. C. A. Irvin read the emancipation proclamation issued by President Lincoln. Professor R. W. Brown, president of the Emancipation Association, presided over the program and later convened the association for its annual meeting and election of officers.

### Principal Address

"Rotten to the core," was the indictment hurled at his race, referring to the condition of the Negro in this city, by Franklin W. Wilkins, in his address. The speaker, in his indictment, which brought a visible reaction in the expression of all in the audience, was referring to the lack of co-operation shown by the Negroes in the city among themselves. He flayed the church program of the group and referred to it as "inefficient, and insufficient to cope with the situation." He likewise flayed the "Golden Street Preachers" and admonished his hearers to get away from that type of religious philosophy which leads nowhere. The speaker also decried crime in this city which, in so many instances, leads to the door steps of the laymen who indulge in practices that tend to incubate crime. He advised that the best way to free one's self from the courts is to stay out of them. He urged his hearers to grasp the opportunity for the ballot box, that this is the only sure weapon for their economic salvation. He urged the churches to encourage intellectual expansion by the group by giving scholarship to worthy young men and women of the group.

Closing his address he listed among the major needs of the group in this city: The ballot box, ten more grocery stores, five furniture stores, five department stores, four more

drug stores, a Negro hospital, two millinery stores, three more haberdasheries, ten more filling stations, five real estate companies and de-

clared that like "a hog in a field of diamonds," we need a bank with efficient management.

The speaker warned against indifference toward one's shortcomings and failure to understand the intellectual capabilities. "The power of intellect transcends over all nature," he reasons and declared its divine attributes by the assertion that "there is more divinity in these forces than in the forces which impel the outward universe through the vast regions of space." And yet, says he, "how little do we comprehend it—how it slumbers in the most of us unsuspected, unused."

The speaker emphasized that the first step toward a proper intellectual expansion is through the process of religion, which enables the individual to view the handiwork of God even in the slightest phenomena of nature; opening to the eyes of man his own physical organism, and shows him how skillfully the vital parts of his body are protected from injury, and the God-given ability to develop and control one's acts—the ability to attain intellectual expansion.

Discussion of the address was led by Rev. R. L. File, D. D., and followed by Dr. G. J. Thomas, Mrs. G. J. Thomas, Professor W. E. Pitts, of the Kimberly Park school; C. A. Irvin, Dr. J. C. White, J. F. Raggs, Milton A. Fletcher of the Y. M. C. A., W. M. Neby, James S. Lanier, and others.

Chattanooga Tenn. News  
January 2, 1936

## Pastor Tells Negroes Must Earn Freedom

Emancipation Day Speaker Urges Make Contribution to Civilization.

"Negroes are still slaves to unequal wages and courts," declared the Rev. J. B. Barber, pastor of Leonard Street Presbyterian Church, in an emancipation day sermon Wednesday afternoon. "But," he added, "when we make a contribution to modern civilization worthy of free

men, we shall be emancipated."

The program was held by the Interdenominational Alliance of Colored Congregations at Warren Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church. The sermon followed a period of old hymns.

"Negroes have expected things to be given to them ever since the delusive promises of 'forty acres and a mule,'" he said. "But when we ask for better jobs and other good things, we must remember that these things are obtained only by striving for them and fighting for them."

"Perhaps we can't get them by ourselves; we must get together with those who will work with us."

### Invited to Session.

This remark referred to the recent organization of common laborers and relief workers, with meetings every Friday night at 7:30 o'clock, to which Negroes are invited. It is the first time in Chattanooga they have had a chance at organization for collective bargaining in a body affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

Dr. Barber urged affiliation of all Negroes, and scored the practice of "waiting around without a job until the white men call a strike, then going in and taking their jobs and breaking the strike."

"Negroes are still in bondage. We are slaves to small wages. Negro farmers are in the same plight they were in during slavery days. In Mississippi a Negro child gets only \$1 for education for every \$5 spent on a white child."

"We need to instill into our children more pride. I want our boys and girls to do something fine for Chattanooga, for America, for God, that will stand by itself."

Birmingham, Ala. News  
January 2, 1936

## NEGROES MARK EMANCIPATION

Idea Whites Hate Blacks Is False, Educator Says

The idea that whites hate blacks is false or there would have been thousands of lynchings in 1935 instead of 31, Prof. A. Heininburg, of Tuskegee Institute, told his audience of 500 Negroes at the Industrial High School Friday night.

The educator, head of the new personnel department at Tuskegee, was the speaker at the annual celebration of the signing of the emancipation proclamation.

He told his hearers that the number of Negroes murdered overshadowed the lynchings. He said that 80 per cent of the race lives below the

Mason and Dixon line and are here to stay, declaring that the forty-ninth state proposed by Dr. W. E. B. Dubois is of "no use to the Negro." He predicted that Negroes will continue to develop with the encouragement of white citizens.

# EMANCIPATION DAY IN NEW ORLEANS GALA EVENT

NEW ORLEANS, La., Jan. 2—More than 5,000 people marched from the Shakespeare's Park, Howard and LaSalle streets New Year's Day, with banners and flags en-

route to the Freedman Auditorium, to witness the program of the 72nd Annual Celebration of the Emancipation Anniversary at 10 a. m., at which time Prof. A. E. Perkins, Principal of the Danneel Public School, delivered the principal address. Those who participated in the line of march were: The Colored Boy Scouts, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Patriarchs, Civic, Fraternal and Church organizations with the Thomy Lafon Band, St. John Band, Danneel School Band, Xavier Band, McDonogh No. 32, F. E. R. A. Band, St. Mark B. Y. P. U. Band and others marching back Washington avenue to Magnolia, up Magnolia to Louisiana avenue, in Louisiana avenue to LaSalle, down LaSalle to Thalia, back Thalia into Washington avenue to Colapissa to the Louisiana Freedman Auditorium. A chorus of 300

trained voices furnished music for the occasion, supported by the Barker A'Capella Septette, Gibb Singers, Second Zion Friendly Four, Duncan, Brothers and the Gayle Singers, who rendered Classic, National Negro Anthem and folk songs. Other speakers on the program were: Dr. J. A. Hardin, president of the New Orleans Federation of Civic Leagues; Prof. Romeo Garrett, supervisor of F. E. R. A. Teacher Project, Rev. W. Scott Chinn, pastor of the Peck M. E. Church; Dr. L. Lwery, of Donaldsonville. Citizens from adjacent towns took part in the celebration and at 7:30 p. m. Rev. W. T. Handy, pastor of the Mt. Zion Methodist Episcopal Church, preached the annual Emancipation sermon using as his subject "Are Negroes Cursed."

The Mt. Zion Choir and the chorus of 300 voices assisted by several soloists furnished the music. Committee in charge of the celebration, Rev. G. H. Hendricks, J. V. Acox, Rev. Wm. Jackson, Rev. S. A. Duncan, A. Hubb, B. Jolicouer and Jas. E. Gayle, director.

## Atty. H. C. Midgett Delivers Address On Emancipation

CAPEVILLE, Va.—Attorney H. Clay Midgett, of Newport News, delivered the Emancipation address here January 1. His subject was "Yesterday, Today, Probably Tomorrow." The burden of his address was that the black people were the first organizers of civilization and maintained it until a late period.

"The black empires and kingdoms fell, divided into warring tribes, who sold their prisoners into American slavery as witnessed by the fact that no white man entered the interior before Livingstone after American slavery had been legally abolished," he said.

"The American colored people have been damned in their leadership since the days when the over-leer destroyed group loyalty by giving his favor to the treacherous," he further emphasized.

"He concluded by pointing out that we are entering a new era, chiefly characterized by the impact of Western civilization, upon that of the East, which is bound to bring about a condition wherein all men will enjoy the more abundant life which Christ came to bring, or the complete destruction of all peoples, kingdoms and nations who by right divine seek or attempt to preserve the status quo."



Columbus Ga. Enquirer-Sun  
January 1, 1936

## Negroes Celebrate Emancipation Today At Spencer School

Negroes of Columbus will celebrate the seventy-third anniversary of the signing of the Emancipation proclamation with appropriate exercises at the Spencer high school this afternoon at one o'clock, it is announced by Dr. Wm. H. Spencer, Jr.

The occasion is being sponsored by the So-C 25 club and the Inter-denominational Alliance, it is stated, and the program will consist of the following numbers:

Song, "America", congregation; scripture reading, Rev. H. W. Wilburn; prayer, Rev. J. H. Edge; negro national anthem, congregation; reading of the Emancipation proclamation, Louise Lewis; solo, Freddie Marshall; introduction of orator of the day, Rev. W. A. Reid; Emancipation address, Rev. W. W. Weatherspool, pastor of the Metropolitan Baptist church; selection, led by Dr. M. L. Taylor; introduction of ex-slaves, Rev. J. T. Cochran; selection, led by Dr. M. L. Taylor; presentation of medal; announcements; benediction.

Dr. E. B. Coffee will be master of ceremonies. E. E. Farley is general chairman, Rev. W. W. Weatherspool is secretary, and Dr. J. L. Carwin is chairman of the music committee. The public is cordially invited, it was announced.

New Orleans, La., Item  
January 1, 1936

## Negroes Celebrate Emancipation

For the seventy-second time, Negroes of New Orleans today celebrated their emancipation.

The main celebration was at the Louisiana Freedmen's Hall, Audubon and Colapissa street, where race leaders spoke in praise of Abraham Lincoln, who set them free, and recorded the progress of their people from slavery time to today.

A chorus of 3000 voices sang the beautiful spirituals that are the Negro's greatest contribution to culture.

Speakers included Professors A. E. Perkins, Rev. W. Scott Chinn and Dr. J. A. Hardin.

Before the meeting a street parade, with bands, marched from Shakespeare park on Washington avenue, Magazine street, Louisiana avenue, La Salle street, Thalia street and Broadway to the auditorium.

Rockford, N. C. Courier  
January 2, 1936

## Person County Negroes Celebrate 73rd Emancipation

### Program At Person Co. Training School. County Wide Mass Meeting On Jan. 28

Wednesday, January 1, 1936, will remain a real red-letter day in the history of the colored people of Person County, for on that day a large number of men, women and children assembled at the Person County Training School to participate in the 73rd emancipation celebration. The meeting was opened by the singing of the Negro National Anthem. A scripture lesson was read by T. B. Wilson, and prayer was offered by G. W. Thomas. The audience sat with bowed heads as A. Iris Woods so beautifully read the proclamation.

The president, J. C. Jones, delivered the address of welcome. In the absence of the speaker of the occasion, H. Albert Smith of Durham, H. B. Moore and McKinley Jeffers, of Florida, made two inspiring talks.

At the conclusion it was decided to hold a county-wide mass meeting at the training school on January 28 for the purpose of organizing a Business Men's and Farmer's Club for Roxboro and Person County.

All the officers were re-elected for 1936. They were: J. C. Jones, pres., K. S. Coles, vice-president, Ethel Tuck, secretary, Iris Woods, assistant secretary, R. J. Bolton, manager, J. L. Lawrence, assistant manager, and W. I. Jones, treasurer.

Herald  
1936

## COX EMANCIPATION DAY SPEAKER HERE

### Local Attorney Tells Negroes To Be Proud Of Grand- fathers Who Were Slaves

Unless the Negroes of America awake to the fact it is honorable to be the descendants of slaves rather than ashamed, the race has no future, G. W. Cox, local attorney, de-

clared Wednesday at an Emancipation day program at the Hillside high school.

A person who is not proud of his grandparents cannot be proud of his grandchildren, Cox said, in urging his hearers to think honorably of their past and to build upon it a greater future.

Cox began his talk with the recital of Lincoln's Gettysburg address and closed with parts of his inaugural address. In addition to his talk the program was as follows:

Music, Union Baptist church; scripture reading, Rev. E. Wimberley; prayer, Dean H. S. Fuller; music, the choir; reading, "Three Golden Days," Odessa Quarterman; vocal solo, Leon Edwards; preamble, David Parham; vocal solo, Isadore Oglesby; Emancipation proclamation, Ellis Jones; preliminary speaker, Prof. W. G. Pearson.

Quitman, Ga., Advertiser  
January 2, 1936

## The Emancipation Celebration Quitman

Representatives from the various communities of Brooks county witnessed the program of the 72nd anniversary of Emancipation at the Brooks county high school auditorium, at which time Prof. J. R. Otis, Director of Dept. Agriculture, Tuskegee Institute, Ala., delivered a practical inspiring address on the subject, "Emancipation—A

Continuous Process In the Evolution of Man" Prof. Otis was accompanied by Prof. E. A. Grant, asst. director Dept. Agriculture, Tuskegee Institute, who also made very impressive remarks.

The Emancipation Proclamation was read by Miss E. C. Rivers. An appropriate musical program was rendered under direction Mrs. Lilly Mae Hollis. Prof. R. A. Bryant served as master of ceremonies. Officials of the meeting were L. L. Chi-holm, president, A. M. Williams, vice, A. E. Brister, Treas., Miss E. C. Rivers, Sec'y, Rev. F. J. Scott, chairman finance committee.

Profs. Otis and Grant entered Brooks county Dec. 31, visiting Sumner Hill community and attending Farmers Conference at the Brooks County Training School, Dixie, Ga. that afternoon. The two prominent educators led in the lively discussion with farmers on the subject, Farm Crop Production and Farm Marketing.

In the afternoon January first

and before noon January 2 they made visits to several farms. The farms of Albert Bacon, Oscar Thomas, Kellog Sirmans, and Bill Adams were among the farms visited.

## Norfolk Emancipation Association's Activities Show Marked Increase

Journal & Guide  
Norfolk Va., 1-25-36

### Continues Its Drive For Bugle Corps Outfit, Plans Excellent Exhibit History Week

By JAMES E. SMITH

The Norfolk Emancipation Association, with David Alston presiding, held a very interesting and constructive meeting last Monday. The work of the association showed a marked increase along all lines of activities.

The interest injected in the work by the various delegates, especially the group club's representatives, showed there is no need of fearing that the annual celebration will fall into discard.

The drive of the Drum and Bugle Corps Committee, who have worked so zealous to secure necessary funds with which to purchase a 20-piece musical outfit for the boys of District 7 U. S. Boy Scouts fell short of the anticipated, but steady strides are being made to realize the needed sum.

### URGES SUPPORT OF DRIVE

It is hoped by the committee that our group will support the drive and give the boys what they need, deserve, and are entitled to. It seems that for lack of race pride, especially in the intellectual and social welfare of our boys—we have said not in words, but actions, let the boys shuffle for themselves.

If we don't get the outfit, members of the other group will see that they get it. This testimony being borne out by the receipt of \$25.00 from John Twohy, 2nd, who informed the committee that he would get his friends to donate what he termed a worthy appeal for our youth of tomorrow. Would that we had such ones in our group who can appreciate the work of our Boy Scouts who so cheerfully and willingly perform tasks asked of them by our citizens free of charge.

### HISTORY WEEK PROGRAM

The Negro History Committee, with James E. Smith, chairman, reported the planning of an elaborate program for the closing exer-



# Emancipation Celebration - 1936.

## ON TO EMANCIPATION!

During the month of January, Afro-America celebrates the anniversary of the signing of the Emancipation proclamation. It is a distinctive human trait that impels groups of peoples bound by common ties to commemorate the events of transcending importance in the history of their progress.

Welling up in us along with a feeling of deep gratitude for the turn of events that struck the shackles of the slave from our forebear is a kindred feeling of awe, respect and reverence for Abraham Lincoln, the big brother of the common people who so nobly seized the opportunity to make ours a race of free men.

Lately we have come to realize that the process of our emancipation was only half completed with the issuance and general acceptance by this country of Father Abraham's proclamation. There is another step in the process which must be taken before we can really be free and enjoy the blessings that accrue to all free men.

That is a step which no Lincoln, however, may take for us. We must do it ourselves.

To be free, an individual or group must believe themselves free, free from the enslaving handicap of an inferiority complex, free in the knowledge that the external differences that characterize the various groups of humans or races constitute no barrier to achievement, self-respect, the respect of others, or the ability to encompass the greatest and fullest measure of happiness.

It is one thing to be conscious of an almost fatal shortcoming that leaves one to drift along with the changing winds of time, but it is another vastly more important thing to do something about it.

Unfortunately the debasing idea entertained by so many of us that the color of one's skin may inhibit us from competing successfully with other laborers in the world's vineyard has never been seriously attacked until the rise of the Negro press.

Certainly, the Negro church, dominated and inspired by religious institutions which boldly countenanced all forms of segregation and discrimination, could not encourage the slave or the freedmen in grasping the idea that all men are born equal, of equal potential capacities. Neither could the Negro educator, who simply passed on to his pupils the twisted and distorted summary of his-

tory.

It is The Indianapolis Recorder along with other colored newspapers that are encouraging the race to accept the glorious facts of the past, to acquaint themselves with the present achievements of themselves and their fellows, and to see the possibilities of the future for unlimited advancement.

The Negro in America must grasp the helping hand being held out to him by his own press and gain for himself the sustaining conviction that God has created no one race inherently superior to another. That genius may be an attribute of any group and that noble progress toward a better life may be the proud boast of any who are willing to pay the price in energy, courage, manhood, initiative and continuous application of such talents as may be possessed.

## Emancipation Day To Be Celebrated, Jan. 1 At St. Mark's Church

Lyman Beecher Stowe, grandson of Harriet Beecher Stowe, the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" will be the principal speaker at the celebration of the Seventy-fourth anniversary of the Emancipation proclamation to be held at the St. Mark's M. E. Church, Rev. L. H. King, pastor, on Friday afternoon, January 1, at 3:30 p. m. Mr. Stowe will review the progress of the Negro since the appearance of "Uncle Tom's Cabin."

The program is being arranged by Cleveland G. Allen, journalist, who will preside. Other speakers will be Dr. Willis N. Huggins, well known historian; Mrs. Laura B. Prisk, "mother of National Flag Day"; Mrs. Elizabeth Ross Haines; Rev. Thomas J. B. Harris, Miss Edith Baker and Rev. David Licorish.

There will be a special musical program by well known artists. The "Ode to Ethiopia", will be recited by Miss Ruth Ellis, and Lincoln's Gettysburg address will be recited by Golden Brown, a graduate of Lincoln University. A cordial invitation is extended to all civic, fraternal and religious organizations to attend the celebration.

The members of the Emancipation Day committee are Rev. Dr. L. H. King, Mrs. Bessie Bearden, Arthur Schomburg and Robert T. Bess.

## REV. MARSHALL SHEPARD MAKES A PERSONAL SACRIFICE TO BRING NAACP EMANCIPATION MESSAGE

the Negro citizens of Atlanta, as well as some practical advice on how some of the problems of the ever changing economic status of our group may be met.

Rev. Marshall Shepard, pastor of Mt. Olive Baptist church at Philadelphia, who is serving his second term in the Pennsylvania State Legislature, will deliver the annual Emancipation Day address Friday afternoon, New Year's Day, at one o'clock, at Bethel A.M.E. Church. In order to bring a message to Atlanta citizenry on this day, the Rev. Shepard is making a personal sacrifice for many last minute changes have been necessary in his well laid plans for the Watch Meeting and Emancipation services of the church which he has pastored for several years. These changes were made at the request of Forrester B. Washington, president of the local NAACP Branch, who has enjoyed a friendship of many years' standing with the noted minister and leader. Having been actively engaged in NAACP work for many years, the Reverend Shepard could not resist the temptation to be of service to his friend in giving an auspicious start to the city-wide membership drive which will be initiated by the Atlanta NAACP on New Year's day.

Reverend Shepard enjoys an enviable reputation as an orator, and the distinction of being the first Negro to serve as Chaplain of the Pennsylvania State Legislature. Before entering the political arena he was even then very active in public affairs and took a prominent part in all programs and movements which meant progress for the race. Reverend Shepard is a graduate of Virginia Union University, and of the College of the City of New York. Before going to Philadelphia to his present work, he served as Religious Secretary of the 135th Street Branch YMCA, and assistant pastor of the Abyssinian Baptist church, both of New York City.

Music for the occasion will be furnished by some of the outstanding and well-known musicians, including soloists, church choirs and bands. It is expected that one of the largest audiences in the history of Atlanta Emancipation Day programs will be present to hear the soul-stirring message which will be a challenge to

The seventy-fourth annual celebration of the emancipation of the slaves will be celebrated by Negro citizens of the Birmingham area at 11 a. m., Friday, Jan. 1, at the Sixteenth Street Baptist Church. The church is at Sixteenth Street and Sixth Avenue, North.

All Negroes in the area have been invited to attend the celebration. Dr. D. V. Jemison, president of the Alabama Baptist State Convention and vice president-at-large of the National Baptist Convention, will speak.

The program will be sponsored by the Greater Birmingham Emancipation Association, of which Dr. P. S. Morten is president.

## NEGROES SCHEDULE CELEBRATION JAN. 1

### Emancipation Anniversary Will Be Observed

RECEIVED  
JAN 1 1936



# EMANCIPATION DAY PROGRAM EXPECTED TO ATTRACT CROWD

All Atlanta awaits the coming of Reverend Marshall L. Shepard of Philadelphia, nationally known democratic leader and a foremost orator and minister, who will deliver the annual Emancipation Day address here Friday, New Year's Day at Big Bethel church.

This feature program will start at 12 o'clock and will mark the beginning of a city-wide membership drive by officers of the local branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, sponsors of the event.

The local branch is quite fortunate to get the services of Reverend Shepard, who will be remembered as having caused a furore among southern Democrats when he opened the Democratic Convention in Philadelphia by offering prayer. So outdone was Senator "Cotton" Ed Smith of South Carolina, he walked out of the session.

The church is expected to be filled to its capacity to hear this great speaker offer a challenge to the entire colored citizenry of Atlanta. A well-balanced program has been arranged and the public is invited to attend this unusual event.



Rev. Leonard F. Morse

## REV. LEONARD F. MORSE TO DELIVER ADDRESS

Under The Auspices Of The St. Petersburg Civic Community Improvement Association

The Emancipation celebration is of natural repute. This Jan. 1st. will be celebrated in a most fitting manner at the Bethel Met. Baptist Church on Friday Jan. 1st. 1937 at 3:30 P. M. with the Rev. Leonard F. Morse delivering the address of the day.

The program is in charge of Mr. Noah Griffin who was careful to secure a desirable talent to present a program in accord with the occasion and by those in harmony with the efforts of the sponsors.

The program has been so arranged to give ample space

Negroes of Athens and the surrounding communities will celebrate the Emancipation proclama-

tion at Hill's First Baptist A.M.E. church Friday, January 1, at one o'clock. The church is located, corner of Pope and Reese streets. The exercises will be held under auspices of the Athens Historical Society with the churches and the Men's Civic club cooperating.

Music will be furnished by the Athens Glee club, Prof. A. J. Wigfall, directing. Reading of the proclamation will be by Mildred Johnson of Athens High and In. Davenport, of Union Institute will give a reading, "Oh Why Should the Spirits of Mortals be Proud."

Speaker for the occasion will be Prof. Rayford Logan, Ph.D. of Atlanta University, who will be introduced by Prof. Aaron Brown, supervisor of Athens colored schools.

All persons meeting requirements and enrolling with the finance committee by December 31, will be named on the program as patrons. Those wishing to do so may see L. J. May, chairman, or any member of his committee.

Norfolk, Va., Ledger-Dispatch  
December 29, 1936

## NEGROES PLAN PARADE FRIDAY

74th Anniversary of Emancipation Proclamation  
Will Be Observed

LINE OF MARCH WILL  
INCLUDE GRANBY ST.

Final preparations for the 74th anniversary observance of the Norfolk Emancipation Association to be held Friday at 2 p. m. have been completed. Leading Negro organizations of Norfolk will participate.

The parade will form in Huntersville and the line of march will be from there to Church street, to Bute, to Granby, to Main, to Fen-church, to Wood, to Chapel, to Princess Anne road and to Wide street.

A program has been planned for Friday night at the Berkley First Baptist church, Rev. J. C. Diamond, pastor. The principal speaker will be Rev. F. D. Nance, pastor of Mark's Memorial Presbyterian church. Special music will be rendered by the choir with Davis Fra-zier, soloist.

David Alston is president of the Emancipation Association; H. P.

Union Springs, Ala., Herald  
December 31, 1936

## ACTIVITIES OF COLORED CHURCHES

By M. Chester Swann

Friday will mark the 74th celebration of the Emancipation of the Negro Race. A committee of leading citizens has arranged an interesting program for 1 P. M., Friday, at First Baptist Church. A group of music lovers are arranging to sing the Old Negro Spirituals as only the Negroes can sing. The public is invited.

Miller, chief marshal, and Augustine Lee, secretary.



# Emancipation Celebrations - 1936

Athens, Ga., Banner-Herald  
January 17, 1936

## History of Negro Race Is Traced in Emancipation Talk

BY BESSIE DIAMOND

"The Picture after 73 years," an historical summary of the Negro race, was the subject of Prof. Aaron Brown, jr.'s address at the Emancipation program presented by the Athens Historical society at a meeting held Wednesday night at the First A.M.E. church.

Prof. C. H. S. Lyons presided during the program which consisted of chorus music by the Athens High and Industrial school and Union Institute under the direction of Olnow K. Hill and Mrs. Aaron Brown. James Sutton of Union Institute gave a reading of Lincoln's proclamation, and Mildred Johnson of the Athens High and Industrial rendered a spiritual musical selection.

The main address by Prof. Brown dealt with the background of the colored race, the historical facts of slavery, notable achievements since Emancipation, and the Negro's standing in Athens in the fields of religion, education, health, citizenship and business.

"One hundred and fifty-nine years ago, two and one-half million Americans won political freedom. Seventy-three years ago, four and one-half million Americans gained personal freedom," declared the speaker in the opening of his address.

Beginning with the first slaves in America in 1619, Brown spoke of their conditions in the colonies, politically, economically and socially, up to the time of Lincoln's Emancipation proclamation in 1863.

In relating the business achievements since Emancipation, Brown said: "There were no Negro businesses of any magnitude at the close of the Civil War. Today there are 80,000 business enterprises conducted by Negroes, in more than 200 different lines."

At the conclusion of his address, Prof. Brown encouraged Negroes to look to the future, build up a higher education, business, and religion, and "recognize the Father-

hood of God and the Brotherhood of man."

The program ended with Brown's reading of James Russell Lowell's poem, "Slaves."

Savannah, Ga., News  
December 26, 1936

## PLANS MADE FOR EMANCIPATION DAY

### Program To Be Held On the First of January

The Social Clubs Union last night whipped in shape their final arrangements for the observation of Emancipation at the Second Baptist Church, Houston and President streets, on January 1. The invitation to the organization was extended by the pastor, Rev. I. W. Collins. The program as planned is more elaborate than last year, in that more clubs are represented in the line-up for the parade, and the program.

The leaders of the Social Clubs Union selected James A. Monroe, H. E. Hagins, J. T. Green, James Blount, Paul Steele, D. B. Bass, J. H. Hamilton, the Rev. C. H. Richmond, L. W. Sales, L. A. Parks, Isaac Legree, Bonnie White, Mary Berrien, F. E. Hawkins, T. J. Hopkins, S. A. Jones, and J. H. Crawford to contact the CCC camp unit at Hardeeville, the United Spanish War Veterans, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Union Brotherhood, the Samaritans, Pythians, Busy Bees, Improved Order of Elks, Family Benevolent Society, Eureka Aid and the Adelpia Clubs. In connection with the selection of the speaker for the day, the following were considered: The Rev. Ed Davis, E. O. Powell, the Rev. J. W. Keller, S. A. Jones, the Rev. G. W. Carter of Absynnia Baptist Church and the Rev. J. Henry Brown. The Rev. J. Henry Brown was finally selected as the choice of the organization. A committee composed of Prof. James M. Washington, Robert Holmes and Paul Steele were appointed to notify him.

Another committee consisting of R. V. Smalls, M. Nagle, Thaddeus Eubanks, and W. H. Hopkins will endeavor to round up the school children, teachers, professional and business men and women for day. Reports and all committees will be finally made on Sunday night when the program will be finally approved.

Chattanooga, Tenn. Times  
December 29, 1936

## NEGRO MINISTERS GROUP TO MARK EMANCIPATION

The Colored Ministers alliance will sponsor the annual observance of the signing of the emancipation procla-

mation Friday afternoon at 1 o'clock at the Leonard Street Presbyterian church, colored, of which the Rev. J. B. Barber is pastor.

The Rev. J. E. Brown, pastor of Thompsons Chapel, A. M. E. Zion, Ky., will be the speaker, and will be introduced by the Rev. J. B. Barber. The Rev. A. M. Sytar, pastor of Friendship Primitive Baptist church, will give the invocation, and the Rev. G. W. Sande-fur, pastor of the Second Baptist church, will be master of ceremonies.

Vocal numbers will be given by Eva McCamey, C. B. Holloway will present a reading and T. E. Cox will read the emancipation proclamation. The choir of Warren chapel will also sing. The scripture lesson will be read by a Rev. P. D. Kingins, pastor of Allenservice Temple, A. M. E. church.

Final arrangements for the observance were made at a meeting of the alliance yesterday morning at Warren chapel, of which the Rev. C. Griffin is pastor. The Rev. T. L. Parsons, newly appointed pastor of the A. M. E. Zion church in Fort Cheatham, was accepted as a member.

Columbus, Ga. Enquirer-Sun  
December 15, 1936

## Emancipation Meet Plans Completed By Negroes Here

Plans for the annual emancipation celebration on January 1, have been completed, it is stated by Dr. Wm. H. Spencer, Jr., chairman of the publicity committee.

Another meeting of the various committees will be held at the Ninth street branch Y. M. C. A. Tuesday evening at 6 o'clock at which reports from each group will be received. James M. C. Carter has been appointed chairman of the committee on parade. The emancipation address will be delivered by Prof. J. O. Slade, of the department of psychology, Morris Brown College, Atlanta. All negro ministers, chairmen and members of the various committees, etc., are urgently requested to be present at the meeting this evening promptly at 6 o'clock, it was announced.

Jackson, Tenn. Sun  
December 30, 1936

## EMANCIPATION DAY PROGRAM PLANNED BY COLORED PEOPLE

J. W. Lane, colored leader of Jackson and son of the founder of

Lane College, announced today that plans were complete for a program at the Liberty Church on Thursday evening when an emancipation address will be made by Rev. C. H. Hardin of Paducah, Ky. A number of church choirs of the city will be combined to provide the music for the service and the public is invited to attend.

Birmingham, Ala. Post  
December 24, 1936

## NEGROES TO MARK EMANCIPATION DAY

Negroes of the Birmingham district will observe the 74th anniversary of their emancipation in a service at 11 a. m. Jan. 1 at Sixteenth Street Baptist Church.

Dr. D. V. Jemison, president of the Alabama Baptist State Conference and vice-president-at-large of the National Baptist Convention, will speak.

The program is sponsored by the Greater Birmingham Emancipation Assn., headed by Dr. P. S. Moten, Birmingham, Ala. Age-Herald  
December 16, 1936

Sponsored by The Birmingham World and dedicated to "the 115,000 Negroes of Birmingham and the 'sons of Fourth Avenue'," this week is being celebrated here as "Negro Business Appreciation Week" in connection with the "Seventy - Fourth Emancipation Jubilee." Birmingham Negroes, it is claimed by the sponsors, spend more than \$34,000,000 in this area each year and their trade alone entitles them to appreciation. In the course of the week's program the organization of a Negro Chamber of Commerce here is anticipated. The program committee consists of local Negro leaders who have the confidence and esteem of both races, and it seems to us that the celebration ought to be an occasion for appreciation not only of the Birmingham Negro's trade but also of his increasing character, intelligence and responsibility, and part in our community life.

## PROGRESS OF NEGRO TO BE CHIEF THEME

## St. Mark's and Salem to Have Meetings for Celebration

Seventy-four years of rise and progress will be celebrated on New Year's Day, when two large groups meet to commemorate the emancipation proclamation at St. Mark's M. E. Church, 137th street and Edgecombe avenue, and Salem M. E. Church, Seventh avenue and 129th street.

At St. Mark's Church Lyman Beecher Stowe, grandson of the author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," Harriet Beecher Stowe, is listed as guest speaker. Others who will appear on the program are: Dr. Willis N. Huggins, historian and teacher, Mrs. Laura B. Pisk, mother of National Flag Day, Mrs. Elizabeth Ross Haynes, co-leader of the Twenty-first Assembly district; the Rev. Thomas J. B. Harris, pastor of Rendall Memorial Presbyterian Church; the Rev. David N. Dioris, representing the Baptist Ministers' Conference, and Edith Baker.

The Rev. Dr. Lorenzo H. King, pastor of St. Mark's Church; Arthur A. Schomburg, Mrs. Bessie Bearden, Robert T. Bess, and Cleveland G. Allen, who will act as chairman, constitute the Emancipation Day committee. The ceremonies will begin at 3:30 p.m.

### Minister to Speak.

"The Evolution of Negro Emancipation and Citizenship" will be the theme of the celebration to be held at Salem M. E. Church at 1 p.m. The program is being arranged under the direction of the Inter-Denominational Ministers' Meeting and authorized committee, and the Rev. Joseph N. Carrington, pastor of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church of Brooklyn, will deliver the chief address.

High points in the Rev. Mr. Carrington's address will include: "Emancipation as a Fit and Necessary War Measure," September 22, 1863; "The Emancipation Proclamation Against the States in Rebellion by President Lincoln," and "Legislation by the Thirty-eighth Congress Abolishing Slavery, and the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution Submitted to the States for Ratification," February 1, 1865; and the "Granting of Citizenship to the Negro by Act of the Thirty-ninth Congress," June 18, 1866.



# Emancipation Celebrations-1937

Edgefield, S. C. Advertiser  
April 14, 1937

## Emancipation Celebration Well Attended

The Emancipation celebration at Edgefield colored school was well attended Saturday, April the 10th. Every section of the county was represented. Music was rendered by the famous Limestone band. Games and drills featured part of the day's program.

Guest speaker of the day was Rev. M. M. Peace, pastor Second Calvary Baptist Church, Columbia, who held his audience under a sway of oratory for fifty five minutes. Some of the high points in the speakers address:

With freedom comes responsibilities. "The occasion should be the yardstick by which the achievements of the Negro are measured in the seventy-two years of his freedom." He emphasized honesty, character, thrift and industry.

The applause at the close of his address was an evidence that his audience was well pleased.

W. E. P.

Winterhaven, Fla., Chief  
May 21, 1937

## Negroes' Celebration of 'Emancipation Day' Winds Up in Usual Way

The sons and daughters of Africa in the Winter Haven section held their "Celebration Day" (observing their emancipation from slavery) yesterday and the affair wound up as one officer remarked, "in the usual way." Which means after a big fish fry, attended by hundreds in the Villa section, there followed the usual sparring contests and razor duel which resulted in at least one casualty. At two o'clock this morning one young chap was being sewed up at a local physician's office after having been somewhat tattooed by his lady love. Officers Grover C. Hinkle and Neil M. Carn investigated the "celebration" and saw to it that the young fellow got medical attention. His wounds were not considered serious.

## Race Group In Dallas To Stage Own Celebration

DALLAS, Texas—(ANP)—Negro organizations in Dallas have combined forces to promote joint celebrations at three of the city parks within the group. Many of the organizations of the state have joined with the forces in Dallas in celebrating their freedom and showing the progress of the race since emancipation.

A parade will be staged in which floats and banners will be displayed, symbolic of the Negro's progress in Texas. Amusements have been provided at three of the Negro parks, namely, Grigg Park in North Dallas, Wahoo Lake and Oak Cliff parks.

Features on these programs will be emancipation addresses by Roscoe Dunjee of Oklahoma City, and Attorney R. D. Evans of Waco, Texas. Many conventions have been called upon to meet in Dallas at this time. Chief among these is the meeting of the state branches of the NAACP, at which National Secretary Walter White has been invited to attend.

Oakdale, La., American  
June 25, 1937

## Negroes Celebrate Emancipation Day Saturday June, 19

Emancipation Day in Oakdale did not pass by unnoticed. The negroes call it "the day their ancestors were freed." The Oakdale shady race got together and had a celebration like only negroes can put on. When they celebrate, they really do celebrate. Dances, barbecues, and greeting old friends composed one of the biggest days in America. They seem to forget that a war was fought for their cause and wholeheartedly let themselves go.

The Emancipation Day is not only a day for the negroes but a tremendous business in some of the stores. Heavy trade goes on all through the day. A negro would buy a new car just for that day and

sell it back the next. He struts like a king for just that one time and then its all forgotten till the next year. Over 2,000 negroes took part in "nigger" day here Saturday and although the day was extremely hot they cut lose with everything. I bet the echo is still ringing in Africa.

Augusta, Ga., Chronicle  
July 4, 1937

## Thousands of Negroes Join In Weird July Fourth Rites

By LOUIS HARRIS

Weird rites which bespoke a return to the customs of primitive Africa, a seeming ordeal under the unrelenting rays of a July sun, yet possessing an amazing technique much like that employed in the modern dance rhythm, was the strange July 4 celebration at Bettis Academy in Edgefield county yesterday in which upwards of 15,000 Negroes joined.

From miles around the Negroes converged on the historic school, some arriving as early as dawn, others later, but by noon the campus of the Negro institution was a seething mass of humanity, literally jammed with happy Negroes, many of whom took part in the annual celebration dating back to the War Between the States.

In work clothes fresh from the fields, in sport jackets, and neat ensemble, in evening dress, they milled about the drill grounds, buying "fresh cooked fish," ice cream, trinkets, gathering to watch their neighbors cavort in the quaint, eerie, startling manner which has come down through the years and is significant only to the Bettis celebration.

Five "companies" there were which competed for the annual prize, all trained to perfection after five weeks of intensive practice. With their wooden guns, tree branches, just plain sticks, on their shoulders, they marched about the parade grounds to the tom, tom, tom of the drums and the sing-song orders of their leader.

"Right shoulder arms, di, de, de," the captain sung, "double line by twos," his voice intoned. His well-trained company responded. Their "guns" on their shoulders they marched, perhaps danced would be a better word, down the drill field. They ducked, they hunched, they danced; the captain's orders continued. The "guns" came from the shoulders. At port arms the sweating Negroes moved down the field. "Right about face, drop arms, pick up arms," the high pitched orders flowed.

The captain rolled his eyes, "It's me you're hearin'," he shouted. "Pick up dem arms, lay 'em down, march boys, we uns are here." The bass and snare drums sounded the cadence. Tom, tom, tom, boom, boom boom. Clouds of dust rolled from beneath the feet of the marchers; shirts now had become stuck to perspiring bodies; the cadence was increased. Tom, tom, tom, boom, boom, boom.

For fully thirty minutes the sometimes laughing, but often more serious, sweating, grimy, marching "soldiers" paraded their intricate and eerie routine before the huge circle of their Negro friends, many of whom shouted encouragement, others derision, all something. Interspersed throughout the mass could be seen a few white visitors, equally as interested as their Negro neighbors.

Five companies paraded before the crowd. Five leaders sang their orders, five companies of from 10 to 15 "soldiers" responded. Some rolled on the ground, rolled their eyes, all carried their "guns" and all danced.

Near the parade ground was the "midway." A carnival spirit prevailed. Down a long lane lined

with what seemed to be hundreds and hundreds of stalls from which fish, ice cream, hair salve, trinkets medicines and novelties were being sold milled thousands of Negroes, more engrossed in the wares on display than in the antics of their friends, disporting themselves in their drills.

For more than half a century this same celebration has been a Fourth of July feature for Negroes of Edgefield and Aiken counties. Not until this year has it gained the attention which

newspapers throughout the country will give it today. How it started was a mystery until yesterday, an origin unknown to the public generally, perhaps unknown to the participants themselves.

To this writer yesterday was revealed how the celebration came into being, and it was disclosed by A. W. Nicholson, venerable principal and president of Bettis Academy, who has spent 55 of his 77 years as head of the Negro institution.

Immediately after the War Between the States, the grey-haired educator said, a large group of Negroes, aroused by the rumble of drums, one day rioted and slew a number of white residents. Then, he said, the order was issued and strictly enforced that no Negro was to possess or beat a drum. Violation of the rule was punishable by beatings, perhaps death.

Shortly after the war, the founder of Bettis Academy, a Negro admired and respected by the white people of the community, opened his school. To him came but few Negroes for education. He appealed to the white people to aid in educating his race. They responded.

Orders were issued that all Negroes who attended Bettis Academy could beat drums. The order was magic. Negroes flocked to the school. All wanted education.

Realizing the educational advantages to be gained by allowing the Negroes to have their drums, the school principal recalled, drums became more or less a fixture at the Academy. There the Negro could beat his drum; enjoy the thrill of its rumbling sound; dance to its cadence.

Now it has become a custom, an annual event. Drums play the most important part in the Fourth of July celebration at Bettis Academy. Without drums there could be no reason for such an observance. Drums? The Negroes love them, the educator said.

But why, he was asked, was the Fourth of July chosen for the annual meeting?

"Just a patriotic gesture," he smiled, "just a patriotic gesture."



## Frenzied Celebration of 'De Fo'th' Stirs Negro Throng Near Augusta

**Dancing, Marching, Writhing Thousands Gather on  
Campus of Swank Race School Just Across River  
for Annual Jungle-Like 'Drill.'**

AUGUSTA, Ga., July 3.—(AP)—The rattle of signal drums today sent 10,000 torso-twisting negroes into the nation's strangest Independence Day celebration.

In rattletrap automobiles, afoot in single-file lines of march and even in buggies, they emerged from the woods for what they call a "drill" on the campus of Bettis Academy, one of South Carolina's swankiest negro schools. It was held today because the Fourth of July falls on Sunday.

They danced, marched and writhed through something that smacked of the African jungles.

### Spirited Competition.

The "drill" follows no pattern, but leather-lunged captains of "companies," competing for the prize for "best drilled," bellow orders from time to time.

Jungle rhythm supplied by hussies. . . Boom! Boom! Boom! from the drums.

It sounds monotonously all day long, but the participants never seem to tire.

Nobody knows how it all started, but as surely as "De Fo'th" rolls around, 10,000 or more negroes pour onto the campus.

It's the day of the crowning glory to months of nocturnal warmup practices.

For the negroes, it's Mardi Gras. **Hot Dogs, Fried Fish.**

Hot dog stands pop up out of nowhere. Bowls of red lemonade glisten in the sun. The smell of frying fish rides the breeze.

The school, just across the state line from Augusta, takes no part in the celebration, serving only as a stamping ground.

Its principal, Albert Nicholson, 78, sits on his shaded porch in wonderment of what it's all about. "We just expect them every Fourth," he says. "They always come."

### Negro Deputies.

The sheriff of Aiken county swears in special negro deputies for the day. They make arrests if celebrants get too spirited, and try them before an impromptu court.

It's a strange Fourth of July celebration—more so than Augusta's "Fantastics," where masked celebrants, dressed as clowns, witches and beggars, celebrate as if it were halloween.

Nobody knows how this odd observance started either. But

some say it began years ago when a party of drunks got their holidays mixed.

Columbia, S. C. State  
July 3, 1937

## Negroes of Horse Creek Gather for Celebration

**"Cademy Drills" Annually Hold Place as Nation's  
Weirdest Independence Day Program—Origin Is  
Unknown.**

Aiken, July 2.—(UP)—Drums throbbing with the cadences of the jungles of Africa tonight summoned Negroes from the South Carolina sand hills to the 'cademy drills—strangest Independence day celebration in America. When the sun goes down tomorrow night, drums will begin to throb in the darkness.

Black field hands, clothed in incredible finery suggesting uniforms, will come out of Turkey Creek, Ebenezer, Shady Grove, Shaw Creek and Eureka to dance their celebration of independence in a ritual so old that none of them know how it originated. Sunday the Negroes who hoe the corn and pick the cotton in Aiken and Edgefield counties will "drill" in a weird, goose-stepping precision dance performed to the rhythm of the juncants of the Hauto of Africa.

Origin of the strange rites is a mystery, although for more than three-quarters of a century, the drill has been a great event in the lives of the Negroes. Students of Negro customs believe it may date back to the "great education rallies" conducted by the late Rev. John Bettis, who founded Bettis academy, agricultural and industrial school for Negroes.

Others, however, believe that the "cademy drills" are the relics of tribal dances brought to this country by slaves. Although extensive research has been conducted into the dances, no convincing evidence to establish their origin ever has been produced.

The teams are comprised of two drummers, a standard bearer and a captain, with from 12 to 24 members. Each man is supplied with a wooden gun.

Their uniforms run the full gamut of color. Some wear discarded army and navy finery; others elaborate uniforms of fraternal lodges and societies which only a Negro field hand could

devise. Some are made of brightly colored cloth from the Horse Creek valley mills. Many teams wear white or khaki trousers and shirts with red and blue stripes sewed on sleeves and legs. An occasional team wears breeches and boots patterned from the Zouave uniforms.

The drummers begin tuning their huge cow-hide instruments tonight, drying the skins before open fires and tightening them.

When the first team marches on the field shortly after noon Sunday, the drums will begin a dull, endless throbbing which gradually will turn the Negro spectators into a moaning, swaying crowd, stamping their feet to rhythms reminiscent of the jungle.

To the booming of the bass drums, team captains will shout commands to groups in the center of the drill field. At the command, they will goose-step to the four sides of the field in a preliminary maneuver.

Then the tempo of the drums will change and the drillers will return to the center, running at a trot.

While the rhythm is stepped up to a wild cadence, the teams will go into intricate maneuvers that would shame the most elaborate routine of a Harlem floor-show chorus. At times the team is prostrate, the commander swinging over their bodies singing in an unintelligible chant. At others, they are moving in intricate formations, their feet striking the ground at each beat of the drums.

## Celebrate Emancipation Day in Manhattan, Kas.

MANHATTAN, Kas.—The Negroes of Manhattan celebrated Emancipation Day in the city park here on August 1. Swimming contests, games, and sports of all kinds were indulged in by the young.

Concluding the day was a basket ball game followed by a program in the city auditorium. Clement Richardson, recently elected president of Western seminary, Kansas City, and former principal of the Kan-

sas Vocational school, Topeka, was guest speaker in the evening.

Mrs. Ora Brown was president and promoter of the day's program. She was assisted by Miss Ruth Irving, Mrs. J. C. Jackson, Mr. Charles Davis, and Mrs. Charles Coffee.

## EMANCIPATION DAY PROGRAM SETS RECORD

**Kansas Citizens Put On  
Best Celebration In  
Twelve Years**

FORT RILEY, Kans., Aug. 13.—Kansas Race citizens held one of the biggest Emancipation day celebrations in 12 years here last week. Nearly 10,000 people danced until 1:30 in the morning in the Chamber of Commerce rooms. An orderly formal ball, it brought forth an array of dazzling costumes.

Traditionally held in Convention hall, the ball was changed to the Chamber of Commerce rooms at the last moment. Later Harrison, vice president of the Kansas Lincoln Day club which sponsored the affair, said the Race members were disappointed in the city commission, as the "hall had been promised them for four months and then was denied."

Sixteen-year-old Gertrude Thomas, Hutchinson, whose young curves filled a light red, one-piece bathing suit, won the title of "Miss Emancipation Day" over a field of a dozen bathing beauties at the municipal pool.

Miss Helen Lawrence, Lyons, was second, and Miss Betty Brady, Wellington was third.

Judges were: Dr. Sylvester Smith, Lindsey (Buck) Henderson, Mesdames Ella Mae Gothard, Cora Owens and Iris Rohten.

Other contestants were: Raye Vaughn, Lyons; Alice Harden, Wellington; Gladys Fox, Wichita; Murlee Shaw, Wichita; Izola James, Wichita; Jacqueline Shepard, Arkansas City; Katherine Robinson, Didge City and Lavinia Burton and Betty House, Hutchinson.

### Sports Program

In the afternoon, the Hutchinson Hatters defeated the Herrington Railroaders, 15 to 2, at Carey park diamond, and Samuel Bernard, Hutchinson, won the bicycle race with Wilbur Fox, Wichita, second.

Eighty-six war veterans from the Marion CCC camp, commanded by Lieut. R. S. Horsley, paraded Main street and attended the festivities.

## Emancipation Celebrated By Iowans

DES MOINES, Ia., Aug. 19 — (ANP)—More than 3,000 persons turned out for the first annual celebration of Emancipation Day, held at Iowa's largest amusement park River View, Des Moines, Wednesday. The celebration, sponsored by the El Producto club, brought in many visitors from throughout the state and from Missouri, Nebraska, Illinois, Kansas and Minnesota. It is the first time that Negroes were ever able to obtain Riverview park.

Speakers on the program included the mayor of Des Moines, Joseph Allen, the Rev. George W. Robinson, pastor of Corinthian Baptist church, Attorney W. Lawrence Oliver, and Miss Irene Glass, a student at Iowa State college of Ames, who read the Proclamation of Emancipation. Attorney M. J. Carl presided over the program. Chattanooga, Tenn. News

November 25, 1937

## Letters

### THE EMANCIPATION PROGRAM

Editor The News:

The idea of Chattanooga "Negroes at loggerheads" on the Emancipation Day program is not, at this time, quite correct.

It seems that the Negro ministers are to sponsor it this time.

Priority of initiative, however, goes to the Negro Business League as regards the 1938 celebration. The chairman of their committee had commenced to contact a broad section of the people over a fortnight ago. At least there is the concession to the league's democratic principle of making the celebration once again dear to all Negro people. Further, some organizations had already joined with the league. There was no strict claim to sponsorship and what it implies.

As questionable as the ministers' warrant to have assumed so unceremoniously and designedly promotion of the exercises eight years ago may be, many people hope that certain personal or private aggrandizement will be vindicated by Emancipation Day.

EARL WELCH.

Chattanooga, November 23.



# Stewart To Be Emancipation Day Speaker

## Sons of Va. Arrange Big Program For January 1

(Reprinted from last week's City Edition)  
The seventy-third anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation will be observed in Portsmouth January 1 with a program at Zion Baptist Church featuring an address by the Rev. Charles E. Stewart, pastor of Emanuel A. M. E. Church.

Dr. Stewart was secured in the face of other tempting speaking offers made him from other cities, and the Sons of Virginia, the organization sponsoring the observance, feels certain that the event will top all others of former years. Last year the Emancipation program was held in Mt. Hermon Baptist Temple, with Lee F. Rodgers as speaker of the day.

Miss Thelma Carver will read the famous document, the Emancipation Proclamation issued by Abraham Lincoln in September 1862 and put into effect January 1, 1863. Another famous Lincoln document, his Gettysburg Address, will be spoken by Mr. Rodgers as an added feature on the program. William W. Richardson will render vocal solo, and, following a custom of several years, the choral society of Norcom High School will sing. The group will be under the direction of James G. Norcom. Invocation will be offered by the Rev. U. G. Wilson, pastor of Zion, and Attorney Frank L. Wilson, grand service. The parade got under way with the Rev. J. Henry Brown, pastor of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church. Ex-service men, war veterans of the War Between the States, Spanish War, and World War, participated in the parade and attended the services in the church.

The committee making the arrangements for the observance include Mr. Rodgers, chairman; Atty. Wilson, George Tynes, James H. Choate, Sr., and David N. Harrell. The program will start promptly at one o'clock New Year's Day.

Danville, Va., Register  
January 2, 1937

## Danville Negroes Hold Emancipation Day Exercises

Negro citizens of Danville and vicinity held special exercises under auspices of the Emancipation Association at the John M. Langston high school yesterday afternoon in observance of Emancipation Day.

A musical program was followed by the main address, delivered by Professor J. T. Paige, principal of Monticello school. His subject was: "Emancipation, and Some Thoughts for a Larger Freedom."

"Physical freedom amounts to nothing without freedom of mind and soul," he said. "I urge you to be law-abiding citizens. Be friends of the white man, but do it in a manly way. Vote for men and measures, not for parties."

In connection with the exercises, Florence L. Wilson was re-elected president of the Emancipation Association.

Nashville, Tenn. Banner  
January 1, 1937

## Emancipation Observed

Negroes in Nashville and vicinity celebrated seventy-four years of emancipation today with exercises and pageants. "Jacob's Ladder," a pageant portraying antebellum slavery, was to be given tonight at 8 o'clock in the auditorium of John Wesley Methodist Episcopal Church. The general public has been invited to the ceremonies.

Savannah, Ga., Press  
January 1, 1937

## TWO CELEBRATIONS EMANCIPATION DAY

### Colored Citizens Have Parades and Services.

Two separate celebrations of the anniversary of Emancipation Day were held today by the colored people. One of these was sponsored by the Social Clubs Union, which held a parade and service. The parade got under way with the Rev. J. Henry Brown, pastor of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church. Ex-service men, war veterans of the War Between the States, Spanish War, and World War, participated in the parade and attended the services in the church.

Delivering the principal address was the Rev. J. Henry Brown, pastor of St. Augustine's Episcopal Church. Ex-service men, war veterans of the War Between the States, Spanish War, and World War, participated in the parade and attended the services in the church. The Emancipation Association, an organization composed largely of the ministers of all denominations of the city, also held its annual Emancipation program likewise this morning. Forming at 9:30 o'clock at

Charles and West Broad streets, members of the association held a parade, after which they assembled at St. John Baptist Church for the addresses and musical program of the day. The church; Mrs. Laura B. Prisk, Miss Rev. M. A. Fountain, pastor of St. Phillips Church, delivered the Emancipation address.

Nashville, Tenn. Banner  
January 1, 1937

## Negroes To Celebrate

The first formal celebration of Emancipation Day by Negroes here in several years was to begin at 2 o'clock this afternoon at Spruce Street Baptist Church.

Dr. L. G. Jordan, Negro historian, was to speak on "The Way Grows Brighter." The Rev. Harcourt Brown, divinity student from the Bahama Islands, was to speak on, "How the American Negro Helped His West Indian Brethren." The Rev. Richard Ewing was to read Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation. Master of ceremonies was the Rev. Ambrose A. Bennett, pastor of Westwood Church.

## EMANCIPATION DAY MARKED IN HARLEM

### Stowe Says Assassination of Lincoln Saved Him From a Greater Tragedy.

Addressing 300 Negroes celebrating the seventy-fourth anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation at St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal Church, Edgecombe Avenue at 137th Street, Lyman Beecher Stowe expressed the opinion yesterday that the assassination of Abraham Lincoln saved the Civil War President from an even greater tragedy.

"History has demonstrated to my satisfaction," Mr. Stowe said, "that had Lincoln lived through Reconstruction his policies of brotherly love, common sense and human kindness inevitably would have been crushed by the policies of hate and revenge which almost all the leaders of his party then advocated."

"Even so great and strong a man as Lincoln would have had to stand aside and see his ideals and plans crushed and his heart broken. For such a man as Lincoln it would have been a greater tragedy to have his heart broken than to lose his life."

Mr. Stowe related incidents from the life of his grandmother, Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" and from the life of his grand-uncle, Henry Ward Beecher, and others who were active in the movement to abolish slavery.

Dr. Willis N. Huggins, Negro

school teacher, decried what he called the "illusion of progress." Other speakers were the Rev. Lorenzo H. King, pastor of St. Mark's Church; Mrs. Laura B. Prisk, Miss Edith Baker, the Rev. David Licorish and Cleveland G. Allen.

Under auspices of the Interdenominational Ministers Conference a similar celebration was held yesterday afternoon in the auditorium of the Salem Methodist Episcopal Church, Seventh Avenue at 129th Street. The Rev. Joseph N. Carrington, pastor of the Mount Carmel Baptist Church of Brooklyn, spoke.

## Lyman Beecher Stowe Is Emancipation Day Speaker In Harlem

Lyman Beecher Stowe, grandson of Harriet Beecher Stowe, author of "Uncle Tom's Cabin," speaking at the celebration of the seventy-fourth anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, held at the St. Mark's M. E. Church last Friday afternoon, related incidents in the life of his grandmother and what prompted her to write "Uncle Tom's Cabin." Mr. Stowe told of the interest of his grandmother in the abolitionist movement and how she was greatly opposed to the system of slavery.

He told of the visit of Mrs. Stowe to Abraham Lincoln, and the inspiration which he received from her visit. He said that Mr. Lincoln in remarking on the visit of Mrs. Stowe said that she was the little woman who had brought all this trouble over slavery. "Harriet Beecher Stowe loved human justice," said Mr. Stowe, and wrote Uncle Tom's Cabin after she had observed the evils of slavery. Mr. Stowe told of the work in the interest of the abolitionist movement of Henry Ward Beecher, brother of Mrs. Stowe, who spoke against slavery from his pulpit at the Plymouth Church.

He told of the secret visits that Mr. Lincoln often made to the home of Henry Ward Beecher where he would counsel with Mr. Beecher over the problems that were confronting him as President of the United States.

Mr. Stowe praised Lincoln for his uncompromising stand against slavery and said had he lived through reconstruction his policies of brotherhood love, common

sense and human kindness inevitably would have been crushed by the policies of hate and revenge which almost all the leaders of the party then advocated."

Mr. Stowe paid a great tribute to his grandmother Harriet Beecher Stowe and others who were engaged in the abolitionist movement. He received a fine ovation from the audience when he rose to speak at the meeting which was largely attended. Cleveland G. Allen, journalist, who arranges the annual Emancipation celebration, presided. Mr. Allen told of the progress that the Negro had made since the emancipation. He said that the total wealth of the Negro was \$2,000,000,000; that he owned 700,000 homes; 232,000 farms; conducted 70,000 business enterprises; operated seventy-three banks; owned 47,000 Negro churches with a membership of 5,000,000; 46,000 Sunday schools with 3,000,000 pupils. He also said that the Negro had not made his illiteracy ten per cent from 90 per cent; 2,150,000 children enrolled in the public schools; 48,000 Negro teachers; 86,000 youths attending secondary schools; 56,000 Negro skilled craftsmen; 3500 Negro physicians; 50 Negro architects; 184 engineers; 145 designers; craftsmen, inventors and chemists, and 19,600 trained Negro preachers.

The invocation was given by the Rev. V. D. Jenkins, and the Emancipation Proclamation was read by Miss Ida Payne. Dr. Willis N. Huggins in his address said that the Negro had not made the progress which he should have made in demonstrating his power of leadership. He said that the Negro had failed in demonstrating his ability to rule and develop a nation. He cited as examples Haiti, Liberia and Ethiopia. Others who made addresses presenting the Baptist Ministers' Foundation; Mrs. Laura B. Prisk, "Mother of National Flag Day." Bishop Lewande and the Rev. Dr. L. H. King, pastor of St. Mark's M. E. Church who responded to the addresses.

A delegation of Boy Scouts under leadership of Scoutleader National Mordecai was present and served as ushers.

Lincoln's Gettysburg address was recited by Golden Brown, a graduate of Lincoln University.

Charleston, S. C., Evening Post  
January 1, 1937  
Celebrating the 74th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, some 200 negroes gathered late this morning in parade through the principal streets of the city. The event, under auspices of the Emancipation Association, concluded with a mass meeting at Zion Presbyterian church on Calhoun street, which was addressed by G. W. Cox, vice president of the North Carolina Mutual Insurance company. Among the marching negroes were a number of members of the organization clad in their uniforms. Other participants rode in automobiles along the line of march.



# Emancipation Day To Be Celebrated

## WHITES FOUR FINGERS, NEGRO IS THE THUMB

Wynn, Rogers To Deliver Messages

So Speaker Says During Emancipation Meeting At Petersburg; Celebration Follows Gala Parade Through City's Streets

The seventy-fourth celebration of the emancipation of the slaves in the U.S. will be staged in the Douglass High School auditorium, morning and evening of New Year's Day, under the auspices of the Ministerial Alliance.

Elaborate plans have been laid to have all of the ex-slaves living in the city to be present and all of those who are unable to be present because of physical disabilities are requested to phone the pastor of any church in the city immediately and arrangements will be made for transportation to and from the church. All ex-slaves will be introduced to the audience at the 11 a.m. services.

The program will open with devotionals being led by the Rev. J. G. Hollis; Scripture reading, Dr. J. W. Johnson; Music by combined choirs, directed by Miss Evelyn Pittman; Invocation by the Rev. L. A. Hawthorne.

Miss Montine Kirkland will then read the Emancipation Proclamation, and following a choral number, the Rev. Beverly W. Wynn, pastor of the Quayle Methodist church, will preach the emancipation sermon.

The offering will be taken by the Reverends E. W. Perry and W. D. Miller. Introduction of ex-slaves.

The evening program will start with a thirty-minute band concert under the direction of Mrs. Zelia N. Breaux. The Rev. C. T. Andrews will read the Scripture lesson and Mrs. John Townsend will sing. Invocation by the Rev. L. M. Jones; Prof. L. B. Hamilton will present the Emancipation orator, Principal C. O. Rogers, whose ability in the forensic realm is well known to Oklahomans.

Special to Journal and Guide  
PETERSBURG, Va.—Following one of the most colorful parades the city has ever witnessed, the annual Emancipation Proclamation celebration was held New Year's Day at the Community Center on Harding Street. The program and parade was under the auspices of the Petersburg Emancipation Association with Captain Thomas H. Brown, acting as chairman.

As principal speaker, Dr. S. A. Brown heralded the coming of a new day in race relations in America after reviewing the progress Negroes have made since they were given their freedom 74 years ago.

The speaker using as an illustration the four fingers of his hand as representing white people and the thumb as the Negro, declared that the "thumb was a very useful part of the hand" and urged members of both races to unite in working for the good of the common country.

The Emancipation Proclamation was read by Mrs. Rolette E. Farley. Others appearing on the lengthy program included Dr. W. F. Clarke, Oliver Johnson, D. C. Valentine, James Jackson, Mrs. N. V. Brooks, Cornelius Jackson, Mrs. Susie McCrae, Mrs. Mary Ross, Mrs. H. V. Pollard, Mrs. India Hinton, the Rev. T. M. Crowder, the Rev. Thomas A. Robinson, and the First Baptist Glee Club.

## TWO CELEBRATIONS OF EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

At Second Baptist and St. John Baptist Churches

For the second time in the history of the city there will be two celebrations. The Emancipation Association composed of the presbytery and laymen of the various churches met and elected the following officers: Rev. D. W. Stephens, president; G. E. West, vice president; Rev. W. O. P. Sherman, secretary; Rev. J. Q. Adams, assistant secretary, and Rev. W. F. Underwood, treasurer.

This group will hold their emancipation celebration at St. John Baptist Church of which Rev. E. O. S. Cleveland is pastor. Rev. Miller A. Fountain, pastor of St. Phillips A. M. E. Church will deliver the emancipation address. The celebration takes place Friday, Jan. 1st.

The following will be the program:

Hymn—Rev. D. S. Sanders  
Prayer—Rev. R. H. Simmons  
Selection—St. John Choir  
Scripture reading—Rev. L. M. Terrel  
Selection—St. John Choir  
Welcome on behalf of Churches—Mr. Ed Simmons  
Introduction of Master of Ceremonies, by Rev. D. W. Stephens  
Remarks—Master of Ceremonies, Rev. L. A. Townsley,  
Song—"National Negro Anthem"—Audience

Reading Emancipation Proclamation—Miss Lillian Sherman  
Introduction of speaker—Rev. J. Q. Adams  
Address—Rev. M. A. Fountain  
Benediction—

Line of march—At 9 a. m. formation at Gwinnett and West Broad streets, West Broad to Henry, to Montgomery, to Hall, back to West Broad to Hull, to Fahm, on to Bay to East Broad, on to Hartridge St. and then to St. John Baptist Church.

### SOCIAL CLUBS UNION

The Second Baptist Church, Houston and President streets, the Rev. I. W. Collins, pastor will be host to the Emancipation celebration on Friday, January 1st, sponsored by the Social Clubs Union. The officers of the Social Clubs Union are: Messrs. James A. Monroe, president; T. J. Hopkins, vice president; D. B. Bass, treasurer, T. Legree, financial secretary, and Mrs. Laura Parks, secretary.

The program and parade composed of the following persons and organizations have whipped everything in shape to observe and have even a bigger affair than last year. Units forming the parade are the C. C. C. Unit from Hardeeville, S. C.; Spanish War Veterans, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Union Brotherhood, Grand United Order of Odd Fellows, Uniform Rank Knights of Pythians, Independent Order of Good Samaritans, Family Benevolent Society and other civic organizations. The parade will form at West Broad and Gwinnett streets at 9:30 and move off at 10:00 a. m. north on West Broad to Oglethorpe, east on Oglethorpe to Houston and then north to the church where the following exercises take place.  
National Negro Anthem—Choir  
Prayer—Rev. C. Cox  
Scripture reading—Rev. Frank Wright

Hymn—The Audience  
Welcome to 2nd Baptist Church—Rev. I. W. Collins  
Presentation of the Master of Ceremonies—Mr. James Monroe  
Introductory remarks by Master of Ceremonies—Mr. T. J. Hamilton

Solo—Mr. Joseph Prince  
Representing Educational Agencies—Prof. J. M. Washington  
Anthem—Choir 2nd Baptist Church  
Reading Emancipation Proclamation—Miss Florence Monroe  
Greeting from business and professional men—Lawyer Thad Eubanks  
Greeting from the NAACP—Mr. T. J. Hopkins  
Spiritual—Golden Dream Quartet  
Greeting from Churches—Rev. C. H. Richmond

Violin solo—Mr. William Glover, Jr.  
Solo—Miss Beatrice Porter  
Introduction of the Speaker—Capt. J. H. Crawford  
Emancipation Address—Archdeacon J. Henry Brown  
Selection—Second Baptist Choir  
Announcements—Benediction—

General Chairman, James Blount.  
Other committees, H. E. Hagins, L. W. Sales, Mesdames Laura Parks, Tillie Fields, F. E. Hawkins, R. V. Smalls, Josephine Hagins, J. E. Wilson, Messrs. J. T. Green, Paul J. Steele, Harry Hagin and Rev. C. Cox.  
Chattanooga Tenn News  
November 27, 1937

## Emancipation Day Dispute Settled

A call will be issued on Sunday morning from the pulpits of colored churches asking that representatives of church, community, civic and business organizations meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday at Warren Chapel A. M. E. Church to form a citywide committee for the celebration of Emancipation Day on January 1.

Plans for the event, which commemorates the issuance of the emancipation document by President Abraham Lincoln, liberating Negroes from slavery in the United States, will be formulated at the meeting, according to the Rev. J. B. Barber, pastor of Leonard Street Presbyterian Church and president of the Colored Ministers' Alliance.

A threatened breach between the Alliance and the Negro Business League apparently has been avoided, according to Earl Welch of the league and secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, who said that "the Negro ministers will sponsor it this time."



# Emancipation Celebrations-1937

## Emancipation Day

### Speakers

Dr. Buel Gallagher at 6th Ave. Baptist church, 2:30 p. m. An appropriate program of music and history of the celebration will be given by Dr. P. S. Moten, who was in a meeting many years ago with the lamented Dr. J. W. Goodgame and others who pledged among themselves that as long as any of them lived no Emancipation date would pass without an appropriate program.

Dr. Goodgame has passed and the program at his church this year will in a measure be a memorial to Dr. Goodgame, who was a graduate of Talladega College. Dr. R. R. Williams will be master of ceremonies.

At 11:30 a. m., Dr. W. D. Edwards will be the speaker and the program will get under way at 2 p. m. at the New Zion church. (See picture, page 3.)

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times  
December 16, 1937

## PROF. LOGAN WILL GIVE EMANCIPATION DAY TALK

Prof. Rayford W. Logan, head of the history department of Atlanta university, will speak at Howard High school Jan. 1 when Emancipation day will be celebrated.

Prof. Logan, a doctor of philosophy, is considered an authority on Ethiopia and Negroid peoples. Announcement of his selection as the speaker was made by Dr. P. A. Stephens, chairman of the speaker's committee. Dr. J. B. Barber, pastor of Leonard Street Presbyterian church, is general chairman of the observance.

## The NAACP Emancipation Day Program

Every civic-minded person of Atlanta, from every walk of life, should make it a point to be present at the mass meeting of the Atlanta Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People at Big Bethel AME church tomorrow at noon.

The NAACP is the race's most powerful force in the tireless and urgent stand for those inalienable rights guaranteed us by the Federal Constitution. It acts not for the purpose of rendering individual and personal assistance, as such, but concerns itself with those broad and fundamental issues where precedent, once established, reacts for the lasting good of the group as a whole. From this scientific and all-inclusive method of championing the rights of the race, there are derived incalculable and permanent benefits for every single member of the group—not only for the present generation but for future generations as well.

What other organization has conscientiously, with the same degree of increasing success, fought for such broad and vital issues as equal civil rights, equalized salaries for public school teachers, equal educational opportunities, fair civil service examinations, and the elimination of exploitation and discrimination against Negro labor?

Citizens of Atlanta should attend the meeting to prove to President Forrester B. Washington that they realize that the NAACP is THEIR organization and also as a means for assuring the administration that it has their physical as well as their moral support. The people should attend as a vote of confidence both to the leadership of the body and as a formal greeting to the new Wheat Street pastor, Rev. William Holmes Borders, the principal speaker.

The young people of the city should forget their social activities and amusements long enough to attend this program and to think seriously upon problems they will inherit from their parents. Every Atlanta family should see to it that its children, wherever they have reached the level for serious mental application, attend this important inspirational occasion. The citizenship attitudes of our children in the future hinge, to a large extent, on the degree to which we aid in having their ambitious young minds opportunely stimulated. Let's attend this NAACP Emancipation meeting and bring our children along with us.

## WEST SAVANNAH TO HAVE OWN 1ST. JAN. PROGRAM

## Street Parade And Exercise At Second St. John Bapt. Church

The citizens of West Savannah and the adjacent territory as far as the five mile bend on the Augusta road, who as usual hold an Emancipation Day exercise of its own, have been made

for this observance, the literary exercises of which will be held at the Second St. John Baptist church on Golden street. The principal address will be delivered by the Rev. B. J. Johnson. The observance, which will include a parade, is in charge of the Emancipation Association of West Savannah, M. J. Jackson, president.

The program will be as follows:  
National Negro Anthem—Audience  
Invocation—Rev. A. J. Fluellen  
Selection—By Choir  
Scripture reading—Rev. H.

Glasker

Selection—By Choir  
Welcome on behalf of church—Mrs. Anna L. Jeffcoat  
Introduction of master of ceremonies—By Y. Gibbons, vice president of West Savannah Community Club.

Remarks—Master of ceremonies, Rev. J. Mims

Selection—Star Spangled Banner

Remarks—Joe Small, Jr.

Duet—By Misses M. A. and L. Walls

Remarks—Mrs. Alice Mack, president of West Savannah P. T. A.

Selection—Royal Quartet Offering

Oration—Miss Walls

Reading Emancipation Proclamation—Mrs. Ernestine Manigault

Introduction of speaker—Rev. S. King

Address—Rev. E. J. Johnson

Benediction

Officers of the day—E. D. Bailey—Marshall-in-chief; L. H. Hooks, assistant; M. J. Jackson, president of Emancipation Association; Rev. A. J. Fluellen, vice president; Mrs. C. King, treasurer; Mrs. E. E. Manigault, secretary.

Transportation committee:—Rev. J. A. Murray, Mrs. F. B. Macon, Rev. R. D. Cooper, Mrs. C. Rivers, Mrs. M. Walker, Mrs. N. Greene, Mrs. A. Jeffcoat.

Committee on finance:—Rev. H. G. Glasker, Rev. W. Gordon, A. Walker, R. Cooper, Mrs. N. Harvey

Badge committee:—Mrs. E. Gibbons, Mrs. C. Rivers, Mrs. N. Greene, Mrs. L. Manigault, Mrs. C. King.

Program committee:—Mrs. Ada Spann, Rev. J. Mims, Rev. S. King, Rev. A. J. Fluellen, Mrs. F. Manigault, Mrs. H. Wright, A. Moore.

Chattanooga, Tenn. News  
December 31, 1937

## Negro Speaker



GEORGE W. LEE

## Lee to Make Emancipation Day Address

George W. Lee, insurance man and author of Memphis and a leading speaker of his race, will deliver the principal address at the Emancipation celebration here January 1.

A World War veteran, Lee is recognized as one of the Negro Republican leaders of West Tennessee.

He was born of a sharecropper family in Mississippi, left fatherless at 3 years of age, and worked his way through school.

After returning from overseas as a second lieutenant, Lee entered the insurance business in Memphis. In his spare time he has written "Beale Street, Where the Blues Begin" and "River George" both of which attained monthly book selection lists.



# SPLIT CELEBRATION TO BE HELD SATURDAY

*Efforts To Iron Out Factional Differences*  
*Prove Unavailing*  
**IN EMANCIPATION DAY PROGRAM**

**One Exercise At St. Philip Monumental;  
Other At Bethel; Two Parades**

Again this year, due to factional differences which could not be satisfactorily ironed out, Emancipation Day, Saturday, January first, will be observed here by two distinct celebrations. One celebration will be in charge of the Emancipation Association which will hold its exercises at St. Philip Monumental AME church, and the other will be headed by the Social Clubs' Union with exercises at Bethel AME church.

The principal address at the St. Philip Monumental AME church program will be delivered by Rev. J. Alfred Wilson, pastor of the First African Baptist church, and the main address at the Bethel church program will be made by Rev. J. H. Wiggins, pastor of St. Paul CME church.

Both exercises will be preceded by street parades, Rev. Henry Williams being marshal of the Emancipation Association demonstration while Lawrence W. Sales is the marshal of the Social Clubs' Union parade.

The Emancipation Association parade will assemble at West Broad and Charles Streets, at 10 a. m. It will move south on West Broad to Henry, east to East Broad, north to Oglethorpe, west to West Broad, to Bay, to Fahm, and then to St. Philip Monumental church.

The Social Clubs' Union parade will form at West Broad and Gwinnett streets, 10 a. m., going north on West Broad to Hull, to Fahm, to Bay, to Bull, to Oglethorpe, to East Broad, and then to Behel AME church.

The programs will be as follows:

## PROGRAM AT ST.

**PHILIP. MON. CHURCH**  
Hymn—Rev. S. R. Dinkins  
Prayer—Rev. R. J. Dinkins  
Selection—St. Philip Monumental AME choir  
Scripture Reading—Rev. N. M. Clarke.  
Selection—St. Philip Monumental choir  
Song—America  
Introduction of master of ceremonies—Rev. D. W. Stephens, president

Remarks—Master of ceremonies, Rev. E. D. Davis  
National Negro Anthem—Audience  
Reading of the Emancipation Proclamation—Mrs. Maggie Graham  
Solo—Mrs. Viola Oliver  
Introduction of speaker, Rev. L. M. Terrill  
Address—Rev. J. A. Wilson  
Benediction  
Transportation committee—Revs. J. L. Mack, P. W. Williams, C. H. Walls, J. Mims, T. W. Williams, S. R. Dinkins, Henry Williams, F. W. Washington and S. M. Maddox.  
Committee on finance—Revs. E. D. Davis, N. C. Connor, J. L. Butler, R. J. Dinkins, J. L. Mack, W. O. P. Sherman, J. A. Williamson, S. R. Dinkins, L. M. Terrill, E. O. S. Cleveland and W. F. Underwood.  
Badge committee—In hands of each pastor.  
Publicity committee, Revs. E. H. Wiggins, pastor of St. Paul CME church, D. Davis, J. L. Butler, W. F. Underwood, L. M. Clarke, and W. O. P. Sherman.  
Committee on band—Revs. W. S. Scott, J. Q. Adams, J. S. Murray, J. L. Mack, E. D. Sanford, C. H. Walls, S. A. Baker and R. J. Dinkins  
Committee on contact and floats—Revs. J. H. Martin, E. O. S. Cleveland, Wm. Morris, J. L. Butler, P. W. Williams, Henry Williams and Mr. D. L. Oliver.  
Committee on advertisements—Revs. J. H. Martin, S. A. Baker and T. W. Williams.  
Officers of the day—Rev. D. W. Stephens, D. D., president; Rev. W. O. P. Sherman, D. D., secretary; Rev. J. Q. Adams, D. D., assistant secretary; Rev. W. F. Underwood, D. D., treasurer.

## PROGRAM AT

### BETHEL CHURCH

National Negro Anthem—Audience  
Scripture lesson—Rev. J. H. Jones  
Hymn—Rev. J. M. Butler  
Invocation—Rev. C. Cox  
Selection—Family Benevolent Society  
Introduction of master of ceremonies, Major H. E. Hagin  
Master of ceremonies, T. H. Hamilton  
Welcome on behalf of church—Andrew Thomas.  
Solo—Miss Dorothy Furlow  
Remarks in behalf of Spanish War Veterans—Harvey Underwood  
Response—Rev. C. P. Hobbs.

Solo—Mrs. Viola G. Oliver  
Memorial to the late Jas. A. Monroe—Mrs. Lillie G. Mason  
Solo—Mrs. Annie Gary  
Report—Finance Committee  
Solo—Mrs. Rachel Young  
Reading Emancipation Proclamation—Miss Annie V. King  
Selection—Bethel A. M. choir  
Introduction of speaker—Rev. Jas. McMillan  
Emancipation address—Rev. J. H. Wiggins, pastor of St. Paul CME church  
Solo—Willie Robinson  
Announcements and doxology  
Benediction—Rev. S. S. Batey  
Finance committee—J. H. Blount, chairman; I. S. Lagree, Rev. C. Cox, Joseph Young, A. H. Simmons.  
Badge—Mrs. Laura Parks, chairman; Mrs. Mabel Pinckney, Mrs. Louise Powell, Mrs. Alice Johnson, Dublin Heyward, Adam S. Rogers.  
Program—T. H. Hamilton, Mrs. Essie M. Hatten, Mrs. Lillie G. Mason, Mrs. Matilda Fields, Miss Annie V. King, Mrs. Lauration R. Berrien.  
Officers—Major H. E. Hagin, president; E. O. Powell, vice president; Mrs. Laura Parks, recording secretary; I. S. Lagree, financial secretary; D. B. Bass, treasurer; Rev. C. Cox, chaplain.

## EMANCIPATION ASSN. GIVES ITS POSITION OF THE SPLIT

The Emancipation Association wishes to submit the following facts as to the split on the January first program celebration: First, the two contending bodies met on three occasions together to see if they could not work out an agreeable program, but failed each time. Each body presented a program of their own in a joint meeting to see if a compromise could not be reached. The Emancipation Association agreed to sacrifice for the sake of peace

from the program, the speaker, the Master of ceremonies and the reading of the proclamation. Every request made by the Social Clubs Union was granted, the only definite request made by the Emancipation Association was the meeting place; it was refused. It was at this junction that the association discovered that the Social Clubs Union did not desire a compromise, but rather wanted the Emancipation Association to swallow their entire program. The chairman, Rev. J. H. Brown, demonstrated by action his opposition to peace and union by accepting the chairmanship of the joint meeting over the protest of the Emancipation Association, when he should have known that he was ineligible to preside when he was a member of the committee making the report. Rev. J. H. Brown and President Hagin of the Social Clubs Union informed the Emancipation Association two years ago when they pulled out, that "we will meet the association at the fork of the road." This split and unfairness is what they meant. The Emancipation Association for the past half century has been the people's organization, including those in all walks of life. Chattanooga, Tenn. News December 28, 1937

## Plans Complete for Emancipation Day

Final plans were made Monday for the Emancipation Day celebration to be held by the colored people at Howard High School New Year's Day. A program of community singing led by L. D. Collins, two appearances of the Bonny Oaks boy singers, solos and an address by Lieut. George W. Lee, Negro author and World War veteran of Memphis, was announced. Arrangements for financing the project are in the hands of the Rev. M. C. Griffin, pastor of Warren Chapel A. M. E. Church, who



reported a considerable amount of money raised at various churches Sunday and made available to the committee.

The Rev. Jesse B. Barber, general chairman of the citywide committee sponsoring the event, will serve as master of ceremonies, and the speaker will be introduced by Jasper T. Duncan, former Memphian now living here.

Anniston, Ala. Star

December 31, 1937

## EMANCIPATION DAY PROGRAM PLANNED

### 75th Anniversary Of Freedom Will Be Celebrated

Negroes of Anniston and vicinity will celebrate Emancipation Day at the Seventeenth Street Baptist Church Saturday with a special program opening at 10 o'clock.

From 10 to 12 o'clock an exhibit will be conducted in the church basement. The exhibit is designed to show the progress of the Negro race during the 75 years that have passed since the slaves were set free by President Lincoln's proclamation.

Various churches, societies, clubs and businesses operated by Negroes are cooperating in the program.

The principal speaker will be Dr. S. J. Bell, president of Miles Memorial College in Birmingham. "The New Freedom" is the subject he will discuss.



# Emancipation Celebration - 1938

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times  
January 2, 1938

## EMANCIPATION DAY LEADERS



—Times Staff Photo.

Lieut. George W. Lee, of Memphis (left), and the Rev. J. B. Barber are shown on the platform at the Emancipation day celebration which was held yesterday in Howard High school.

## NEGROES TOLD TO GET RIGHTS

Education, Political Action Urged by Emancipation Day Meeting Speaker.

Declaring education has been planned only to replace the shackles that were stricken from the Negro by Lincoln, and unkept promises of the political parties have left his race "trembling on the very borderland

of subsistence," Lieut. George W. Lee, of Memphis, in an Emancipation day address yesterday afternoon in Howard High school, called for education of the whites to favorable attitudes toward the Negro, and for a political alliance of colored people with other minority groups.

Negroes, with their thousands in domestic service and agriculture, have been left out of the benefits of the social security act and other new deal reforms, while the republican party is shifting farther to the right to meet "Jeffersonian democrats," Lieut. Lee, insurance man, author and soldier, asserted, and he added that "we are tired of promises and isms and what we want now is the stuff on the barrel-head."

"Unless something is done, the Negro

may turn his face to a new party," the speaker said, "but I believe the republicans will come back. The Negro republican party of tomorrow, in order to reclaim the thousands of Negroes who have trekked away, must be a liberal party."

### Says Unskilled Worker Pushed Out.

Asking "How will we readjust ourselves to the situation of today?" Lieut. Lee said "the skilled worker has been pushed down to the level of the semi-skilled, the semi-skilled has been pushed down to the level of the unskilled worker, and the unskilled worker, which is the Negro, has been pushed out of the picture."

"The Negro is the last to be hired and the first to be fired," he asserted, "and stands trembling on the very borderland of subsistence. How will we save ourselves from extermination? I believe we will find and are finding a way. We are finding a way in Chicago with the boycott, under the slogan 'We will not trade where we cannot work.' In Durham, N. C., and other southern sections we are finding a way by building race consciousness to support Negro business. In organized labor we are finding a place to increase pay envelopes."

"But we will not make must progress until we learn the lesson of cohesion and mass action. We will not find this through nomadic activities; wherever we are, in whatever we are engaged, let us become more efficient than the other man."

"We can't rest our case," Lieut. Lee continued, "with the present day northerner who is coming south. He is very much different from the carpet-bagger who came south to build the schools. We are living by a very warlike people, the southern white man. The Japanese and the Indians have tried it, but the Negro is the only race that has ever been able to live side by side with the American white man."

### Speaker Says Education Must Be Used.

"It is no accident that Negroes talk like whites, have white spirits in black bodies and applaud what the whites applaud, though it is to our own extermination. This is the result of a system of education that is meant to take the place of the shackles that have been stricken from the Negro. We should use education to make the white people think of us what we want them to think."

Lieut. Lee described present-day Negroes as divided into three types.

"First," he said, "there is the cajoler, who flattered the vanity of the whites. Second, there is the monstrosity living in the upper story of a vain imagination, who doesn't want to be a Negro, who basks in the shadow of the white man and talks the language of the white man. When his day is done, you will be ready for this emancipation. Third, there is the emancipated Negro, who believes in his future; who believes in developing a minority technique to educate the white man to a new racial attitude; who believes it is incubating crime to fill the front pages with only the type of Negro who gets caught in a crap game or a fist fight on Saturday night; who believes it is a shame that thousands of the best Negroes are lost to the north and that it is a reflection on the south that Joe Lewis and Jesse Owens, the fastest human on earth, had to go north to reach their fullest development."

### Removal of Fear Urged.

"The program of the new Negro is to remove fear from the heart of the white man. Why should he feel that our progress would lead to dangerous social implications? We were here a year before the Mayflower landed. We saw the light in the North church tower. We were 2,000 strong with Washington. We stood with the Minute Men at Lexington. We were in the war with Spain. In the World war we plunged over the rocky slopes of glory and there was no rain and no mud to us; nothing could stop us." Lieut. Lee declared, "The Negro has a glorious future," and "with ownership of farms, we are going to make this country blossom like a rose."

The speaker was introduced by Jasper T. Duncan, Negro reporter of the Chattanooga News, who said Lieut. Lee, born near Indianola, Miss., is the author of "Beale Street" and other books, served in the Argonne in the World war and has been head of colored ex-service men for the republican party.

### The Rev. J. B. Barber Presides.

The Rev. J. B. Barber, pastor of the Leonard Street Presbyterian church and general chairman for the emancipation program, presided at yesterday's gathering. L. D. Collins led congregational singing, and Mollie A. Kingins sang. The invocation was said by the Rev. Dewitt S. Dykes, pastor of the Wiley Memorial Methodist Episcopal church. The Bonny Oaks boys' chorus sang. Jennie Mondul read the emancipation proclamation and Dr. P. A. Stephens, physician and member of the committee for the day, spoke. A piano solo was played by Rebecca Guyton. The audience sang the Negro national anthem and the benediction was said by the Rev. M. C.

Griffin, pastor of Warren chapel of the African Methodist church. Alma W. Spence played the piano accompaniments in the program.

## Dallas Negroes To Celebrate June 19

Elaborate Program Planned At Fair Park For Juneteenth

The Juneteenth promotion committee, headed by Bronze Mayor E. E. Ward, and representing the Negro Chamber of Commerce and Progressive Voters League, is putting final touches on city-wide thousands of holiday visitors who will come to Dallas to celebrate emancipation from slavery. Gov. Allred issued a proclamation on May 25 declaring June 19 official Emancipation Day.

Local businesses and clubs are reserving concession stands in Fair Park through Chairman M. B. Anderson, for the serving of foods and refreshments.

A colorful emancipation parade is being organized under the leadership of A. A. Braswell. The Queen Contest committee, headed by B. W. Goodwin, reports that fifteen clubs vie with each other to be crowned the "Queen of Emancipation" and be the center of a three-day attraction.

Chairman W. Brashear has organized a softball unit which will compete with Fort Worth for the inter-city softball championship. These games will be played in Railto Field in Fair Park. In connection with the softball tournament, plans are being made to promote a softball game played on the backs of donkeys.

The automobile building has been reserved for a two-session cabaret dance, promoted by T. H. Smith.

The emancipation ceremonies will be conducted in the band shell and all ex-slaves will be featured on this program.

Amusement rides of carnival variety will be open to all. Permanent exhibit buildings in the fair grounds will form a part of the educational and sightseeing tours. The Owen bus line is

planning to install traffic accommodations within the grounds.



# To Mark End Of Slavery In Missouri

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Aug. 5—E. church, West Sixth and Chestnut Race citizens of Jefferson City will celebrate Emancipation day at State Park, Thursday, August 14.

Robert S. Cobb, for many years executive secretary of the Missouri Negro Industrial Commission and also assistant commissioner to the workmen's compensation commission, will deliver the major address.

Attorney Cobb is the nominee for Justice of the Peace in Jefferson Township, and expects the support of both the Republican and Democratic organizations as he is the only Race member in Cole County on the ticket.

At the Park celebration, Attorney Cobb will discuss the emancipation as applicable to Missouri.

Chattanooga, Tenn. Daily Times  
November 22, 1938

## PASTORS ALLIANCE QUITS SPONSORSHIP

To Allow Other Negro Groups  
to Promote Emancipation  
Exercises This Year

The Colored Ministers' alliance will forego, for the present year at least, its usual practice of initiating proceedings for the setting up of an emancipation celebration committee," according to a statement released yesterday by the alliance and signed by the Revs. Jesse Belmont Barber, president, and W. H. Reynolds, secretary.

The statement reads:  
"For a number of years the Colored Ministers' alliance of Chattanooga has summoned the Negro citizenry of the city to join in celebrating Emancipation day. Through all of these years appropriate exercises have been conducted and every effort exerted to perpetuate the deep significance of the occasion.

"It has never been the desire nor the practice of the alliance to assume exclusive direction or control of this event. The alliance always has taken the position that the celebration belongs to the Negro people as a whole rather than to a single group or class. Each year it has sought and urged the co-operation of all, at the very start, and it rejoices to affirm that many of the leading organizations and individuals of the city have participated most generously in the enterprise."

However, in order to afford other interested groups the opportunity of sponsoring the celebration, the alliance has decided to forego, for the present year at least, its usual practice of initiating proceedings for the

setting up of an emancipation celebration committee, and to leave the way open for whatever group or agency that may wish to take over the event.

The alliance pledges its hearty interest and support to whatever agency that will maintain the high standards of this important undertaking.

Thursday at 11 a.m. the alliance will sponsor a union Thanksgiving service at the Warren Chapel A. M. B. church, pastor of the Patten Memorial A. M. E. Zion church. Music will be provided by the Warren chapel and Patten Memorial choirs. The Rev. Mr. Barber will preside.

## Cites What Negroes Desire

Justice, Equality  
Race's Big Need,  
Dobbs Asserts

CLEVELAND, O.—(SNS)— Stating that over the doorway of the United States Supreme Court building is engraved four words, "Equal Justice Under Law," and that that is what the Negro wants, John Wesley Dobbs of Atlanta, Georgia sounded an epochal message over the "Wings Over Jordan" program by way of the Columbia Broadcasting System here Sunday morning, January 1, in a special Emancipation Day address.

Mr. Dobbs said Negroes want this beautiful American ideal generally effective in every state of the union. He said they want "equal rights and protection in the courts, in the streets, and on the farms; they want equal opportunity to work at every honorable trade and profession—equal opportunity to cast a ballot in all elections everywhere."

The text of the message by Mr. Dobbs, who is president of the Atlanta Civic and Political League as well as Grandmaster of Georgia Prince Hall Masons, is reproduced verbatim below:

### THE NEGRO IN AMERICA

"Dr. Settle and Radio friends Greetings—this New Year's Day

To the 12 million Negroes of America, this day has a higher significance—To us it is Emancipation Day. On January 1, 1863—in the City of Washington, President Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation which freed three and one-half million slaves. Today, their descendants pause to commemorate that historic event with profound gratitude to God and to Abraham Lincoln.

### THE NEGRO HAS BEEN IN AMERICA A LONG TIME:

"He first came to the New World with the early explorers. Black seamen were with Columbus in 1492. Alonzo Pietro, a Negro was in charge of the pilot house of one of the three ships, of the crew, the Nina. They were with Balboa in 1513; Cortez in Mexico in 1518. Estiveneco, a Negro led the expedition of 1537 which opened up the region now known as Arizona and New Mexico. A Negro member of the DeSota expedition of 1540 remained in this country and became the second settler in what is now the state of Alabama. The twenty slaves landed at Jamestown, Virginia in 1619 arrived a year ahead of the Pilgrim fathers at Plymouth Rock. For the next 240 years Negroes were forcibly brought to America against their will.

### THE NEGRO HAS HELPED TO BUILD AMERICA

"The sweat from his brow fell in the railroad cuts, cotton fields, rice plantations, in the forests and along the mountain sides. Negro labor became efficient and dependable by the way in which it helped to build America.

### THE NEGRO HAS BLED AND DIED FOR AMERICAN DEMOCRACY

"The first man to fall in the Boston Massacre of 1770 was Crispus Attucks, a Negro who died for American ideals six years before the signing of the declaration of Independence. Peter Salem was another to distinguish himself at the battle of Bunker Hill. 5000 Negroes saw service in the Continental Army under General Washington.

"In the Civil War, 200,000 fought in the Federal Army for their own freedom and the preservation of the Union. Three million slaves made crops by day and protected white women and children by night, while their masters were fighting to keep them in bondage. Such loyalty and devotion have never been surpassed by any people in any period of history. In the World War 180,000 were enrolled—200,000 of

whom saw service in France. America has fought valiantly in every American War and has yet to produce a traitor to the flag.

### THE NEGRO HAS BEEN FREE BUT 76 YEARS TODAY

In this short time he has accumulated two billion dollars worth of property including 22 million acres of farm land, an aggregate area larger than the five states of Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Connecticut.

### THE NEGRO ADOPTED THE RELIGION OF AMERICA

"In the midst of slavery, he accepted from his master the Christian religion with the faith of a child. Today he counts over 40,000 churches with a membership of five and one-half million souls.

### THE NEGRO HAS MADE PROGRESS IN EDUCATION

"In 1860,—90 percent could neither read nor write. By 1930 this illiteracy was reduced to 16 percent. Today 2500 are finishing American colleges annually. Considering this achievement we can not give too much credit to the white Christian Missionaries, who went South following the Civil War to help educate the Negro. Their task was one of sacrifice and consecration. The memory of these good people should never be forgotten.

"In turn Negro men and women became teachers themselves. Quite a few, like Booker Washington, rose above tremendous obstacles to become useful educators. J. B. Watson, reared on a Texas farm, and unable to finish high school until 25 worked four more years, entered Brown University at 29 and graduated at 33. Today he is the honored president of the State College for Negroes of Arkansas.

"Professor Fletcher Henderson, father of the famous band leader of the same name, has been teaching continuously for 58 years, at Cuthbert, Georgia. Professor George H. Green, Douglass High School, Lexington, Missouri, has been teaching continuously for 59 years. Mrs. Charlotte Stevens, Dunbar High School, Little Rock, Arkansas, 67 years. In South Carolina alone there are 14 Negro teachers with more than 50 years service.

"Today, many white people of the South, where most of the Negroes live, are seriously interested in his education. Accredited high schools and colleges are being rapidly equipped and financed from public funds. The results are both encouraging and gratifying.

### WHAT DOES THE NEGRO WANT AND DESERVES?

"Over the doorway of the Nation's Supreme Court Building, in Washington, are engraved four words, "Equal Justice Under Law." This beautiful American ideal is what the Negroes want to see operative and effective in Mississippi and Minnesota, South Carolina, and South Dakota—nothing more or less. They want equal rights and protection in the courts, in the streets and on the farms; they want equal opportunity to work at every honorable trade and profession—Equal opportunity to cast a ballot in all elections everywhere. These fundamental rights and privileges, guaranteed by the Federal Constitution and its Amendments, constitute the aims, the hopes and the desires of the Negroes of America today and tomorrow."



# Emancipation Celebrations - 1938

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times  
January 1, 1938

## NEGROES PLAN RITES TO MARK FREEDOM DATE

Lee to Address Gathering  
at Howard High School  
This Afternoon.

Chattanooga's Negroes will observe the anniversary of emancipation with ceremonies this afternoon at Howard High school, with George W. Lee, of Memphis, the principal speaker.

The celebration, sponsored by the Interdenominational Ministers' alliance and all other colored civic groups and organizations, will be presided over by the Rev. J. B. Barber, general chairman and master of ceremonies. It will begin at 1 o'clock.

The program, as announced last night, will include congregational singing, led by L. Davis Collins; invocation by the Rev. Dewitt S. Dykes, solo by Mollie A. Kingins; song by Bonny Oaks school singers, reading of emancipation proclamation by Jennie Mondul, instrumental solo by Lexine Howse-Weeks, address by Dr. P. A. Stephens, introduction of the speaker by Jasper T. Duncan, and Lee's address on "What This Day Means to Negroes."

Singing of the Negro national anthem and the benediction by the Rev. M. C. Griffin will close the meeting. The main speaker is well known in Memphis as a republican leader, insurance man, author and orator. He was born the son of a Mississippi sharecropper and was orphaned at the age of 3. He worked his way through school and enlisted at the outbreak of the World war, returning with the rank of second lieutenant.

He has written several stories of life around Memphis, the best known of which are "Beale Street, Where the Blues Begin" and "River George."

Committees in charge of today's observation follow:

Speaker: Dr. P. A. Stephens, Ralph Martin, Willie O. Astrapp, the Rev. S. P. Holston and T. D. Upshaw, Jr.; music: I. B. Collins, Jesse Barrom, B. C. Tipton, W. J. Davenport and C. Dixon; place: D. C. Harper, the Rev. William Lockhart, Butler Richardson.

Prof. J. W. Carter and the Rev. A. M. Sylar; finance: The Rev. M. C. Griffin, Bertha C. Singleton, Jennie Mondul, J. L. Pitts, Sr., and B. T. Scruggs; publicity: Jasper Duncan, H. E. White, the Rev. E. H. Dial, W. C. Robinson, Prof. L. W. Henderson and W. M. Hixson; program: Frederika Shackleford, the Rev. D. S. Dykes, the Rev. R. L. Briscoe, Flynn G. Warren and Dr. L. L. Patton; general secretary: Oliver Bryant, Jr.

Greenville, Miss., Democrat Times  
January 6, 1938

## COUNTY NEGROES TO CELEBRATE 75 PROGRESS YEARS

Two Days Event to Take  
Place in Greenville  
February 10-11

The Chamber of Commerce, the City Administration and other institutions are today offering their aid to the Citizens' Progress Committee, of Washington county, which is sponsoring a celebration in connection with National Negro History Week, that will be called "75 Years of Negro Progress in Washington County."

The officers of the committee are Dr. L. DeLaine, chairman; R. T. Watson, vice-chairman; Levey Chapple, secretary; W. M. Palmer, manager and James Robinson, treasurer. There are committeemen and committeewomen from all parts of the county.

The celebration, to be held in Greenville February 10 and 11, will be built up to show the progress the Negro has made since his emancipation 75 years ago. In their objective the committee says, "The Negro from time to time has made certain contributions to the progress of the nation and Washington county, in particular, and it is to this end that we present this program of Progress to stimulate interest as to historical facts concerning him in Washington county."

An urgent invitation has been extended to Dr. George Washington Carver, of Tuskegee, famous Negro chemist, who addressed the National Chemurgic Conference in Jackson early last year, to come to Greenville for this occasion and it is expected that

other prominent Negroes from all parts of the nation will be here. If Dr. Carver comes here he will, no doubt, make an address and show some of his great chemical discoveries, including the making of sugar, coffee, milk, cream, plastic wood, paper, dan-druff remedy and other products from the lowly peanut.

The committee has opened offices at 714½ Washington Avenue.

Augusta, Ga., Chronicle  
January 9, 1938

## EMANCIPATION DAY PROGRAM IS GIVEN

The Emancipation Day exercises held at Tabernacle Baptist church on January 1 were perhaps the best ever presented by the Lincoln League. Dr. H. H. Butler, president of the State Baptist convention of South Carolina was presented to the audience by Dr. L. A. Pinkston, president of the Missionary Baptist convention of the State of Georgia.

Dr. Butler delivered a stirring message on the subject, "What the Negro has Contributed to America." The address was well received by the group present and will be published in pamphlet form in the near future and will be handled by Rev. A. H. Green.

The speaker was brought to this city by Rev. A. W. Vincent, outstanding minister of this city and pastor of churches in nearby communities. Other features of the exercises included organ music by E. L. Stewart; scripture reading, Rev. J. W. Evans; prayer by Rev. H. C. Carswell; the fine renditions by the Simmons Sacred orchestra with R. Simmons as soloist; and the reading of the Emancipation proclamation by James B. Elliot. Rev. W. M. Jenkins is president of the Lincoln League.

Albany, Ga., Herald  
January 7, 1938

## NEGRO GENIUS.

Dr. George Washington Carver, for 40 years on the faculty at Tuskegee Institute, is the subject of an interesting article in last week's Liberty magazine. But, the Dothan Eagle points out, volumes could be written about this colored genius who has accomplished amazing things with clay, peanuts and cotton, to mention only a few. The Eagle says:

"From the most humble possible

beginning, he is today and has been for years one of the most useful citizens in all America. When he was but six weeks old, some night riders in Missouri kidnapped his slave mother in 1864, and she was carried into Arkansas where she was never heard of again. The infant was raised by one Moses Carver who traded a \$300 race horse for him. He developed into such a truthful boy that the Carvers called him George Washington, and gave him their own surname as was the custom during slavery.

"He educated himself in Missouri and Iowa, and by hard work and applying his brains and energy he is today internationally known as a scientific genius.

"Would that there were more men of Dr. Carver's calibre, but unfortunately they are rare."

Greenville, Miss., Democrat Times  
January 8, 1938

## GREAT INTEREST IS AROUSSED IN PLANNED NEGRO CELEBRATION

Many Prominent Speakers Will Include Dr. George W. Carver, of Tuskegee Institute — DeLaine's Announcement.

The Citizens Committee arranging for the celebration of 75 years of Negro progress in Washington county to be held in Greenville February 10 and 11, have received enthusiastic promises of support in their venture, according to Dr. L. DeLaine, chairman of the committee. The list of speakers include Dr. George W. Carver, the famous Negro scientist, of Tuskegee, Ala., who has an international reputation because of his successful experiments in peanut products.

Dr. DeLaine said: "We believe the facts of our progress should be placed before the nation in an intelligent, straight-forward and unbiased way, thereby giving outside America a chance to see that we in Greenville

and Washington county are progressing — that we have the cooperation of members of the other races who are assisting us in attaining the goal of good citizenship. The Negro, from time to time, has made certain contributions to progress. This celebration should stimulate interest as to historical facts concerning him in Washington county."

Savannah, Ga., News  
January 1, 1938

## Association Nearly Half Century Old

Two parades and two church services will be held today as Savannah's colored population observes Emancipation Day.

One parade will end at Bethel A. M. E. Church, where patriotic services will be held.

The other celebration will be held by the Emancipation Association of Savannah and Chatham county at St. Philip Monumental A. M. E. Church, Hull and Fahm streets.

This marks the seventy-fifth year since the Emancipation Proclamation was signed by Abraham Lincoln and William H. Seward, Secretary of State. The Emancipation Association in this area was organized nearly a half century ago here in Savannah, with the late Rev. Alexander Harris as its first president and Editor Sol C. Johnson of the Savannah Tribune was its first secretary.

Elaborate plans have been made by the association for a rare display this year, with a parade with floats, ministers, professional and business men, Sunday schools, B. Y. P. U.'s; A. C. E. leagues, and civic organizations.

The formation will take place at 10 a. m. at Charles and West Broad streets, headed by police escort and brass band.

## Line of March

Formation at Charles and West Broad streets, at 10 a. m.; south on West Broad to Henry street; east on Henry to East Broad; north on East Broad to Oglethorpe, to West Broad; north on West Broad to Bay; west on Bay to Fahm; south on Fahm to Church, Hull and Fahm streets.

Rev. J. A. Wilson, D. D., the pastor of the First African Baptist Church, will be principal speaker for the occasion.

The program will begin at St. Philip Monumental A. M. E. Church at 12 o'clock: hymn, Rev. S. R. Dinkins, D. D.; prayer, Rev. R. J. Dinkins, D. D.; selection, St. Philip Monumental A. M. E. choir; scripture reading, Rev. N. M. Clarke, D. D.; selection, St. Philip Monumental A. M. E. choir; welcome on behalf of the church, Supt. E. Shuler; selection, "America"; introduction of master of ceremonies, Rev. D. W. Stephens, D. D., president of Emancipation Association; "National Negro Anthem," audience; reading of Emancipation Proclamation, by Sister

Maggie Graham, solo, by Sister Viola Oliver; introduction of speaker, Rev. M. Terrell, D. D.; address, Rev. J. A. Wilson, D. D.; benediction.



## Bring Your Money, Leave Guns Behind, Negroes Request

Saturday will be a great day in the life of the negro population in this section. It is emancipation day and nearly every section has arranged programs of preaching, singing and sports events.

Across the river in Georgia seven games of baseball will take place at Florence. Play will start at 7:30 a. m. and continue until late in the afternoon. A dance will follow.

Invitations to the affair read, "Come one, come all. Bring your pocketbooks, but leave your guns at home."

Birmingham Ala Age-Herald  
May 27, 1938

## Freeing Of Slaves Again Is Observed In Negro Pageant

FOR the second time within a few weeks, a Negro pageant commemorating the freeing of the slaves 75 years ago was presented Thursday night at Municipal Auditorium.

Two soloists added to the program were Benjamin Brown, baritone, of Edgewater, who sang "Precious Lord, Touch My Hand," and Dessie Tolbert, soprano, who led in "Swing Low."

The Acipco Choral Club and T. C. I. choral groups, together with outstanding Negro soloists and accompanists, portrayed the Negro's progress in the United States from slavery on up to the present. A large number of Negro songs of the Deep South were sung. Through the medium of music, the performers pictured a drove of slaves, prayer meeting, camp meeting, folk dance and cotton picking. The program was divided into three parts—slave period, the period after freedom when slaves were longing for their masters and the culture period

League, is sponsoring the program, which starts at 3:30 p.m., will be held under the auspices of the Alabama State Federation of Civic Leagues.

All previous years, the "Lincoln Memorial Association" has been having charge, but for some reason, this organization failed to function last January, and we did not have a celebration at all. This oversight is to be deplored as a matter of so much importance should never be overlooked, and passed up. In order that this should not again occur, the League is making the initiative step to have a grand celebration. The executive committee, Dr. M. L. Walton, chairman, met last Monday night and arranged a program for the occasion.

A very competent speaker has been employed to deliver the main address, and it is the fond hope that the citizenry will turn out in this occasion, which will be Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock.

Very likely there will be other celebrations in the rural sections on January 2, in order that the farmers who may not be in position to attend in the city, may have the benefit of taking part in the celebration of his great event.

The Civic League is also striving to line up with the farmers over the county, to become more active in civics and educational projects which the Government is attempting to offer to those who will be loyal to the laws of the land.

Some one will call upon the business firms of the city to do as they have done for many years—make a contribution for the promotion of this most worthy cause. We purpose to aid the old people, especially those who may attend the meeting, or may be in dire need.

The Alabama Federation of Civic Leagues has a membership of 20,000, and its purpose in Alabama is to produce the highest and most desirable type of citizenry. William L. McAlpine is president of the organization.

Mobile Ala Press  
December 28, 1938

## Emancipation Day Program Scheduled

Emancipation of colored slaves 76 years ago by President Lincoln will be celebrated at 2:30 o'clock Monday afternoon at the Emanuel A. M. E. Church. Principal speakers of the occasion will be the Rev. A. E. Ellison of Big Zion A. M. E. Z. Church and Prof. Benjamin F. Baker, principal of the Mobile County Training School.

The emancipation anniversary will be celebrated throughout the nation by colored people. Local exercises will be sponsored by the Mobile branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. White and colored persons are invited to attend the services.

Thomasville, Ga., Wkly. Times-Ent.

## Emancipation Day Festival Planned For Negroes

In keeping with a long established custom, the colored people of Thomasville and Thomas county, will celebrate the 76th anniversary of their emancipation from slavery, January 1, 1939, at Douglas High School auditorium. The Thomas County Civic

G. H. KENNEDY, Reporter.  
Birmingham Ala News  
December 27, 1938

## NEGROES SLATE FREEDOM FETE

It has been 76 years since the American Negro was freed from slavery, and Sunday at the Smithfield Court Auditorium, this freedom will be celebrated. This seventy-sixth emancipation celebration,



## Headed Outstanding Emancipation Day Parade



These platoons of navy enlisted men, under command of non-commissioned officers, were a feature unit of the annual parade held here in connection with the celebration of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. The observance is sponsored by the Norfolk Emancipation Association. The naval units are stationed at the Norfolk Naval Training Station. Other pictures and stories on page 3. (Journal and Guide Photo).

## Parade Called Best Here In Many Years

**Notable Address Made By Dr. Stewart**

With ideal weather prevailing, the 75th anniversary of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation by President Abraham Lincoln was fittingly observed by citizens here Saturday under the sponsorship of the Norfolk Emancipation Association.

The observance was two-fold. In the afternoon the celebration feature was a parade, generally credited by the thousands who saw it move along its line of march as the best parade in a decade. At night formal exercises were held at St. John's A. M. E. Church, with the Rev. Dr. Charles E. Stewart

pastor of Portsmouth's Emanuel A. M. E. Church, as the main speaker. (The text of Dr. Stewart's address will be found in another column).

### NIGHT EXERCISES

The night exercises opened with the singing of the "Negro National Anthem," scripture reading by the Rev. L. R. Kibler, pastor, St. Paul C. M. E. Church, and invocation by the Rev. F. D. Nance, pastor, Mark's Memorial Presbyterian Church. Musical numbers were rendered by the St. John's Choir, Mrs. Bessie Gaines Crallie, the Belleville Training School Chorus, and Mrs. Pearl Brown.

The Emancipation Proclamation was read by Miss Josephine Thomas, and a poem was read by Miss Hattie Lee Riddick. Offering was lifted by the finance committee headed by James Monroe.

The speaker was introduced by the Rev. Dr. S. E. Dixon, pastor of Metropolitan AMEZ Church, who said: "The Negro must be awakened to his latent powers, enabling him to make wide contributions; Dr. Stewart is the type of speaker to arouse and awaken us."

### VETERAN PRESENTED

At the close of the services President David Alston of the association presented Charles Grandy, 96 year old Civil War Veteran, who recited a stirring poem and made a brief talk. The other Civil War veteran living here, Cornelius Garner was unable to be present.

Mr. Alston made a brief address in which he reviewed the work and aims of the association and pleaded for wider support by the public. He announced that the next meeting of the organization would be held on Monday, January 10, when it will lay plans for the celebration of Negro History Week.

The singing of the Belleville Chorus was the musical hit of the evening, it being encored several times.

### PARADE UNITS

The parade units as officially announced were as follows:

First division, Josh Hunter, marshal; motorcycle police escort, chief marshal's staff, two platoons from Naval Training Station, Excelsior Reed and Brass Band, Eureka Lodge No. 5, IBPOE of W. Beulah Temple Marching Club No. 4 of Berkley, Supreme Council of White Lily Crown Princess White Lily.

Second division, J. E. Lumsden, marshal; Metropolitan Band, ILA Locals Nos. 1458, 1293, 984, 1448, 987, 1248, 1379, 1779, Hampton Reed and Brass Band, Powhatan Lodge No. 2, R. P. H. of Buffaloes.

Fifth division past chief marshal James E. Smith, marshal; New Cal-Band, Greater Norfolk Lodge 132, IBP of W. Sons of Norfolk senior and vanguard, Phyllis Wheatley Circle, Nor-folk Social and Beneficial Club, Booker T. Pharmacy, Norfolk Community Hospital, Daughter Elk Temple 1-A, W. H. Sears, B. H. Roscoe, Lewis Coal Company, City Coal and Ice Co., Norfolk Ice Delivery, Star Cleaners, J. H. Hale and Co., Morn-ing Glory Funeral Home, Midway America, District seven.

### FOURTH DIVISION

Fourth Division, Scoutmaster Paul Burton, marshal; Boy Scouts of America, District seven.



# JOHN WESLEY DOBBS STIRS CAPACITY THROG WITH EMANCIPATION TALK

## Achievements Of Race Traced Over 75-Year Period Of Freedom By Noted Atlantan

ATHENS, Ga.—(S N S)—The entire membership of the classic City's annual Emancipation exercises were celebrated here Sunday, January 2, at the Ebenezer Baptist Church. Rev. J. Gresham, pastor, with a glowing address by John Wesley Dobbs, of Atlanta, Grandmaster of Georgia Masons, who spoke on "The Negro in America."

Mr. Dobbs who is also head of the Atlanta Civic and Political League, told the overflow crowd of the condition of the Negro when he was brought to America, of his period of slavery, of his 75 years of freedom, and of the Negro's opportunity in America. In stressing the Negro's accumulation of wealth and advancement in education, the speaker said that in 1860, ninety per cent of the race was illiterate, but in 1930, only sixteen per cent was illiterate.

The program was staged under the auspices of the Men's Civic Club of Athens, of which Prof. Aaron Brown, Jr., is president. He is also supervisor of education for Athens and the county.

An outstanding feature of the program was the recitation from memory of the Emancipation Proclamation by Chester Davenport, senior at Union Baptist Institute, of which Prof. C. H. S. Lyons, who was presiding officer, is principal. Davenport's delivery brought down the house.

Speaker Dobbs, symbolizing the inscription over the door of the United States Supreme Court building, "Equal Justice Under The Law," said, "The Negro's job of tomorrow is to see that this motto becomes known and practiced in the red hills of Georgia and Alabama, the mountains of the West, the delta of the Mississippi, and the everglades of

## EMANCIPATION ANNIVERSARY IS OBSERVED

### Noted Speakers Heard At Big Meeting In New York City

NEW YORK, Jan. 7—The 75th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation issued in August 1862 to become effective January 1, 1863, was celebrated in Harlem with impressive ceremonies at St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal church. The program was sponsored by the Improved Benevolent Order of Elks with J. Finley Wilson, national exalted ruler serving as master of ceremonies and Judge William C. Hueston as principal speaker.

The program began early Sunday morning with some five thousand members of the order and friends marching in a parade that taxed Harlem's historic Seventh avenue along its fronts. The parade started downtown, continued through the boulevard to 137th and St. Nicholas avenue, where the greater portion of the parade entered the church to observe a program studded with brilliant musical numbers, addresses and the reading of the proclamation.

Map Real Pro... Although the day was aside as

one for honoring Lincoln and to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Emancipation proclamation. There were a number of important issues discussed. There was the drawing up and submitting of several resolutions, one being in the form of a written request to Mayor LaGuardia for improved bus and transportation services in upper Harlem. Another petition was drawn for President Roosevelt asking that domestic servants be included in social security and another to Grover Whalen, president of the world's fair, asking that the Race be accorded more and better jobs for the 1939 fair.

The program lasting several hours was studded with interest. As master of ceremonies J. Finley Wilson was himself in wit, save for occasions when he chose to become serious. He was quite sure that Harlem's domestic servants are entitled to social security; that better living conditions and transportation are due Harlem and many other things.

Another resolution suggested and carried by Mr. Wilson was an attack on Senator Borah of Idaho because of the latter's stand on the anti-lynching bill.

#### Hueston Speaks

Judge Hueston the day's principal speaker delivered a stirring address. His theme was one big plea for the Race to get closer together in 1938 and stick together. "Quit fighting among ourselves. Quit pulling at the coattails of the brother who may be a step ahead of us and get down to work," are among the things suggested by the speaker.

## EMANCIPATION DAY MARKED IN HARLEM

Hubert T. Delany Says Task  
Lincoln Started Has Not  
Yet Been Completed

### SEES ECONOMIC SLAVERY

Education and Intelligent Use  
of Vote Will Achieve Freedom,  
2,000 Negroes Are Told

Two thousand Negroes celebrating the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation

yesterday at St. Mark's Methodist Episcopal Church in Harlem were reminded by Hubert T. Delany, municipal tax commissioner, that the task that Abraham Lincoln started had not yet been completed. Mr. Delany represented Mayor LaGuardia on the program held under auspices of the Negro Elks and co-operating organizations. The meeting was one of a nation-wide series. "We in this country who are poor

and at the bottom of the economic ladder, whether we be black or white, are still in slavery," he said. "We will continue in bondage as long as we are subject to economic insecurity. There are only two means by which we may achieve real freedom—education and the intelligent use of the ballot."

The history of the Negro race in America was traced through slavery to the present by William C. Hueston, former municipal judge in Gary, Ind. The time has come, he said, to complete the work of Lincoln.

"I believe that for us there is to be a second emancipation," Mr. Hueston asserted. "I feel that with God's aid we shall somehow find a program and adopt a plan which will enable us to build a life with which to control our destiny, economic, political and moral."

"Seventy-five years after emancipation we are still battling for our rights in the greatest republic in the world," J. Finley Wilson, national leader of the Negro Elks, declared.

Resolutions adopted by the meeting urged the nomination of a Negro for Congress from the Twenty-first district, which embraces Harlem; requested the revision of the Social Security Act to include domestic workers and to facilitate the obtaining of old-age pensions, and asked for an extension of job opportunities for Negro workers.

Other speakers included the Rev. Lorenzo H. King, pastor of St. Mark's; Perry Howard, Washington attorney; Bishop James W. Brown of the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, Dr. H. J. Oliver and Dalmus Steele. Washington, D. C. Post

## Emancipation Day Observed By Colored

Logan and Swartz  
Address Meeting  
Of Elks' Groups

United Government Employees and colored Elks' Civil Liberties units held a joint celebration of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation yesterday in the auditorium of the Shiloh Baptist Church. Senator Logan (Democrat), of Kentucky, and Senator Schwartz (Democrat), of Wyoming, spoke.

Dr. Charles A. Marshall, district deputy of Elks, outlined the purpose of the national celebration by more than 1,000 Civil Liberties units which is to emancipate the colored citizen economically by use and understanding of civil rights and responsibilities.

#### Logan Praises Colored

Senator Logan eulogized the colored race in America. He cited their conduct in the Civil War, and their patience, and adherence to religious principles since that time.

He lauded President Lincoln, and Gen. Robert E. Lee, as the great men of an era.

Senator Schwartz, setting forth the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Emancipation Proclamation as the three great charters of American liberty, urged members of the United Government Employees, and of the Elk fraternity, to prepare themselves, by education and finer adjustment, for fullest participation in the economic liberation of the masses of the people.

#### Urge Colored Fliers

A series of resolutions, offered by Edgar G. Brown, head of the United Government Employees, and Civil Liberties' director of Elks, was adopted by the gathering, urging the following:

Appointment by President Roosevelt of a colored citizen as a Commissioner for the District; civil service and civil rights within the District; admission of colored youth into the United States Air Corps, including 2,000 colored pilots; abolition of photographs in connection with Civil Service applications; a \$1,500 minimum wage for all Government employees; unemployment and social security benefits for domestics; permanent establishment of CCC camps; further development of health education; concerted opposition to State and local organizations having the final decision on matters of relief.

Other speakers included Mrs. Elizabeth McDuffie, the Rev. E. L. Harrison, Dr. William H. Jernagin, the Rev. James A. Olden and the Rev. C. T. Murray. Musical numbers were furnished by the Dixie Harmonies, composed of colored Government employees.



## EMANCIPATION CELEBRATIONS- 1938

Thomasville, Ga., Press  
December 16, 1938

### Emancipation Day Fete Planned For Negroes

In keeping with a long established custom, the colored people of Thomasville and Thomas county, will celebrate the 76th anniversary of their emancipation from slavery, January 1, 1939, at Douglas High School auditorium. The Thomas County Civic League, is sponsoring the program.

All previous years, the "Lincoln Memorial Association" has been having charge, but for some reason, this organization failed to function last January, and we did not have a celebration at all. This oversight is to be deplored as a matter of so much importance should never be overlooked, and passed up. In order that this should not again occur, the League is making the initiative step to have a grand celebration. The executive committee, Dr. M. L. Walton, chairman, met last Monday night and arranged a program for the occasion.

A very competent speaker has been employed to deliver the main address, and it is the fond hope that the citizenry will turn out in this occasion, which will be Sunday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock.

Very likely there will be other celebrations in the rural sections on January 2, in order that the farmers who may not be in position to attend in the city, may have the benefit of taking part in the celebration of his great event.

The Civic League is also striving to line up with the farmers over the county, to become more active in civics and educational projects which the Government is attempting to offer to those who will be loyal to the laws of the land.

Some one will call upon the business firms of the city to do as they have done for many years—make a contribution for the promotion of this

most worthy cause. We purpose to aid the old people, especially those who may attend the meeting, or may be in dire need.

G. H. KENNEDY. Reporter.  
Savannah, Ga. Press  
December 22, 1938

### JOINT EMANCIPATION PROGRAM JANUARY 2

#### Parade and Speaking Will Be Principal Features.

Colored organizations will unite in a single emancipation parade and program this year, it was announced today. Participating in the parade will be fraternal, patriotic, civic, military, veterans and other groups.

The celebration will be held Monday, January 2. The line will form at 10 o'clock at Gwinnett and West Broad streets. From there the marchers will traverse the principal streets of the city and wind up at the Tabernacle Baptist Church on Alice street, of which Rev. E. D. Davis is pastor, where the emancipation program will be held.

Rev. C. P. Hobbs, pastor of the Bethel A. M. E. Church, will deliver the emancipation oration and the edict of Abraham Lincoln, the emancipator, will be read. There will be appropriate music and other features. Two bands and the Vance Allison drum corps will accompany the marchers. Rev. L. M. Terrill is president of the association, and Rev. W. O. P. Sherman is secretary.

Gadsden, Ala. Times  
December 23, 1938

### NEGROES TO CELEBRATE BIRMINGHAM, Dec. 28.—(P)—

Observance of the sixty-eighth anniversary of the emancipation of the American negro will be held Sunday at the Smithfield Court auditorium, sponsored by the Alabama Federation of Civic Leagues. Anniversary speakers will include Dr. F. D. Patterson, president of Tuskegee Institute.



# After 74 Years

(AN EDITORIAL)

"Bitter the road we trod,  
Bitter the chastening rod  
Felt in days when hope unborn had died."

—James Weldon Johnson.

TODAY MARKS another milestone in the march of a struggling people toward that goal attained by leading races of the earth. It was decreed in the early advent of the republic that the nation could not long endure half slave and half free. It must be said in keeping the records straight, some of the colonies were opposed to slavery. South Carolina and Virginia passed laws against the evils in their provinces.

It was a great commercial venture for the ship builders of Liverpool, England and the crown vetoed the efforts of South Carolina and Virginia in their struggle for keeping slavery out of their confines.

It was the brave Frederick Douglass who caught the spirit of Sir William Wilberforce and his school in the old world and carried on with brilliant success in making the sentiment which gave us Harriet Beecher Stowe, Wendell Phillips and Abraham Lincoln.

After that bitter struggle between the states which ceased hostilities in 1865 the group has steadily made progress. Often friendless, forgotten and denied the opportunities of decent existence and educational facilities, we have not given up the struggle in deep despair.

The hard school that followed immediately upon the heels of slavery, tempered the souls of the weary travelers to the extent no race on the face of the earth has ever been able to weather the tempest and endure the hardships with such marked success.

The great story of "Up From Slavery" reads like a novel and not only the South, the country at large but the world should feel proud of the contribution of the colored race. It has made bricks without straw and on every hand has insisted, in spite of the outrages, and lawlessness practiced upon it, an 'unparalleled devotion' and an 'unstinted loyalty' to the flag and the government of the United States.

We pause today in thanksgiving for the freedom that has come to us and in celebration for the victories achieved. The dawn of a new day is upon us and on every hand are the evidences of faith, struggle and untiring effort. We have made our mistakes as other people.

We have been outlawed and held down by those who possess lesser moral and poorer vision, but through it all we have not fallen by the way.

The mission of this day, celebrated so widely in our churches and school, is by no means an effort to keep alive before the young of our group the institution of slavery. We are striving to get away from the memory of the

clutches that held our forebearers. Rather it is the emphasis of the powerful strength and courage that carried a benighted people through the dark wilderness of sin into the blessed sunlight of Hope and Progress.

Let us hope that the year will be marked with such legislation from the national congress as will make the country safe for all citizens, regardless of race and religion. This will come as a reward for the persistent faithfulness and loyalty of a struggling group.

So we go into the new epoch and the new year with renewed vigor and Hope, forgetting our mistakes and the ills that have come to beset us and "Looking unto Jesus as the author of our Faith."

Eunice, La. New Era  
June 9, 1939

## Negroes Celebrate Emancipation Day On June 18th and 19

Negroes of Eunice and adjacent territory will celebrate Emancipation day, June 18 and 19, with appropriate services, base ball, dancing, boxing, and a barbecue.

The celebration will be held in the S. J. Morris warehouse. The morning will be devoted to religious services and talks by several negro clergymen, in addition to a welcoming address by a Eunice city official. Speakers will include E. M. Laws, Rev. Melvin Green, Rev. J. G. Frank, and Rev John Wilkerson.

The base ball game will be between Elizabeth and Melville at 3 p. m., Sunday, and a dance will be conducted that night.

On June 19, the boxing will see Arkansas Ki of Baton Rouge and Battling Kid Son of Eunice, weight 187, in action for 10 rounds. Other bouts include Battling Thomas, Baton Rouge, 140 pounds, versus Kid Cary of Eunice, and K. O. Percy, 155 pounds, Melville, versus Robert Smith, Eunice.

## EX-SLAVES TO BE HONORED AT ANNUAL FROLIC

### Emancipation Park Waits Throngs For Barbecue And Dance Program

HOUSTON, Tex., June 9—An address by C. F. Richardson, editor of the Houston Defender, will feature the 1939 Juneteenth celebration at Emancipation park, Dr. J. Leon Peacock, chairman of the Negro recreation council, announced Monday.

Former slaves will be honored guests at the celebration. The entertainment will include a barbecue, spiritual singing and band concerts.

Dr. Peacock said that the dedicatory services for the new club house in Emancipation park will be held Sunday, June 18, the day before the Juneteenth celebration.

The plans call for one of the biggest celebrations ever held in Houston and 25,000 persons are expected to attend.

A dance will be given after the fete with music furnished by Milton Larkin and his band.

# EMMETT SCOTT CHIEF SPEAKER AT EXERCISES

## Thousands Celebrate 77th Anniversary Of Race Freedom

By N. B. YOUNG

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Sept. 29—The Emancipation Celebration committee of this city staged the largest and most enthusiastic celebration ever held here Friday, Sept. 22, in celebration of the seventy-seventh anniversary of the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation by Abraham Lincoln, in the Municipal park.

Five thousand persons gathered two nights, September 21 and 22, to give voice to their recognition of the event which signalized the freedom of a people long held in the bondage of slavery.

The visiting orator this year was Dr. Emmett J. Scott of Washington, D. C. His presence and the message he brought greatly stirred the civic pride of the organizations,—the local Negro Business League, secret societies, including the Elks, Masons, Pythians, and others; church groups, the N.A.A.C.P., and the members of Tom Powell Post American Legion, that participated.

Dr. Scott declared the Emancipation Proclamation was not an event of sudden impulse. He sketched the gloomy, dismal period of controversy which preceded it, and, also, Lincoln's declared abhorrence of slavery made 30 years and more before.

He made an impassioned plea for a democracy in America which shall include every element of our citizenship within its sacred folds.

He claimed that "wherever there is denial of the full and untrammelled citizenship rights of colored men and women, in any part of the country, by that token and in that measure, boasted democracy in America is a hypocritical thing, a fraud, a delusion."



# NEGRO EVENT PROGRAM GIVEN

## Emancipation Proclamation Anniversary Will Be Ob- served In Columbus

The seventy-seventh anniversary of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation will be observed Monday afternoon, January 1, at 1 o'clock at the St. John A.M.E. church on Fifth avenue between Fifteenth and Sixteenth streets, it was announced by Dr. William H. Spencer, Jr., a member of the publicity committee for the event.

The occasion will be sponsored by the Interdenominational Negro Ministers alliance and the So-C 25 club, and the following program, at which Prof. F. R. Lampkin will be master of ceremonies, will be rendered in celebration of the occasion:

Song, "America"—Congregation.  
Scripture reading—Rev. P. L. Taylor.

Prayer—Rev. W. B. Biggins.  
Negro National Anthem—St. John A. M. E. Church Choir.

Reading of the Emancipation Proclamation—E. J. Winston.

Duet—Prof. Carl Joseph Haygood and wife.

Introduction of Orator of the Day—Rev. T. W. Smith.

Emancipation Address — Rev. Martin Luther King, pastor of Ebenezer Baptist church, Atlanta.

Selection—St. John A. M. E. Church Choir.

Presentation of E. J. Turner Memorial Award—B. C. Turner.

Announcements.  
Benediction.

The public is cordially invited to attend this observance of which Rev. W. A. Reid is general chairman and Rev. R. M. Ferrell is secretary, it was stated by Dr. Spencer.



# JEAN HILL'S EMANCIPATION ADDRESS A GREAT ORATION

The fact, that Dr. Chas. Leander Hill, Dean of Turner Theological Seminary, Morris Brown College, Atlanta, Georgia, did not touch the theme or spirit of the occasion; does not lessen, the value and worth of his speech to Negro greatness, and the capacity to absorb and use every kind of education, if he wants a voice in the Government, he must prepare himself any other people can absorb and use. His oration was original, and is as much a contribution to English Literature, as any-day for what he knows to be his rights under the law. Place thing Dr. Washington or Prof. Dubois has written and published: and if given to the world, with the publicity that the writings of Dr. Washington and Prof. Dubois received his January address, will find its place in the world's literature among the world's great writers, thinkers and scholars.

Emancipation Day, is a day of deep significance, and ought to be of special concern, and of far-reaching importance to the American Negro. Only the birthday of Christ born in Bethlehem, ought to outrank Emancipation Day in the hearts of the American Negro. Any trend on the part of selfish Negro leaders, to turn the day into a racket, ought to be spurned and condemned by the decent and respectable manhood of the race. The celebration of this all important day, should not be made a side show, by men, who take the advantage of the day; to push their own interests, at the expense of the sacredness of the occasion.

The day ought to be given over wholly to the celebration of the Emancipation of the Negro from human slavery, and his transfiguration from a chattel to a citizen. The celebration ought to be the main feature of the day, and everything else the ten cent side show. The orator should be chosen with special regard to the spirit, purpose and background to the occasion. The people ought to be made sensible of the occasion, that they might enter the spirit of the day with full knowledge of what it is all about. Let the speaker know what you want him to talk about. It is a mistake to invite a man to address you on an important occasion, and not know what he is going to talk about, until he opens his mouth before the audience.

January the first, is the Negroes' fourth of July, and the Negro ought to see the day of his emancipation from slavery, in the same spiritual sense the white man sees the fourth of July, dedicated to the cause of human liberty, and the equality of mankind, for God created all men free and equal, and entitled to certain inalienable rights, which no law of man can abridge or impair, the Right of Life, Liberty and the pursuits of Happiness. President Lincoln's Proclamation of Emancipation, which we celebrate January the first, is our Declaration of Independence, and means the same thing to us, the Declaration of Independence means to the white man, and if we ever get sense enough to discover ourselves, discover God, and then discover Him in our makeup, we will be free and felt in world civilization like other races.

It is not a question whether Booker T. Washington was

right or wrong in his commonsense system of education, or whether Prof. Dubois was wiser than Dr. Washington in his aristocracy of education. The important question is, adjust ourselves to the needs of the hour, and then convert the youth of today, to the fact that his race has the same background from which the white man sprung from nothing to something in world power. If the Negro will only discover these qualities in himself, he will have the tools with which to work out his own salvation and make himself a place in world civilization. If he wants a voice in the Government, he must prepare himself, know his rights, support the Government, and fight until doom: liberty above security. Liberty will bring security but security will destroy liberty if you accept security in lieu of liberty.

Race consciousness, race pride, patriotism, and the recognition of our ability to accomplish anything any other race has accomplished is the road to greatness. These principles are the keynotes to working out our own salvation, economically, industrially and politically, without fear and trembling before the white man or any other being except our Creator. The Dean spoke a miracle when he said, there is something else for the Negro to do, besides eat, work and saving money. This statement proved conclusively that our racial budget is out of balance, and in the red, so far as permanent progress is concerned.

The Dean's handling of the Washington and Dubois ideals of education, was masterful, but not without its faults. His definition of the two schools of thought, was reasonably correct, but his deductions were bad. He destroyed both systems as out of date; and suggested a remedy, partly blended of the two. As a rule men tare down but offer nothing in lieu of what they destroy. The Dean is an exception to that rule, that which he discards he offers a better plan in his judgment. He discards Mr. Washington's commonsense system of education and Dr. Dubois' aristocracy of education, and offers as a substitute for both in our opinion Dr. Washington's formula of education. Dean Hill said there is no system of education that will fit everybody, that education could not be applied collectively, but individually, according to the capacity, taste, talent and inclination based upon freedom of selection and talent. Mr. Washington's ideal of education was the masses must learn to work with the hand and his talented tenth, Dr. Dubois' aristocracy, should have all the education and from every angle possible in order to take the students from Dr. Washington's commonsense school to the realm of higher education. Mr. Washington visaged that in the fitness of things it would be necessary to grow a class of producers of wealth and food to feed and clothe the philosophers, and in substance, Dean Hill offers the same philosophy of education, that he condemns in Dr. Washington. And in finality, Dr. Washington and Dean Hill are together in philosophy of individual education, because Mr. Washington held that higher education was that education that best fitted the individual to do the work his hand and head found to do in the community where he lived and worked.

Mobile, Ala. Press  
January 3, 1939

## EMANCIPATION IS CELEBRATED HERE

### Speeches and Spirituals Feature Program; Appeal for Co-operation Made

Speechmaking and spirituals was the keynote of the program as Mobile's colored residents gathered at the Emanuel A. M. E. Church Monday afternoon to celebrate the seventy-sixth anniversary of their freedom from slavery.

The two featured speakers—Rev. A. E. Ellison, pastor of Big Zion A. M. E. Church, and Prof. B. F. Baker, head of Mobile County Training School—praised President Lincoln's emancipation proclamation of 1863 as the first step toward progress for the colored people and carried on a lengthy discussion of the principal problems now confronting their race.

Using "Who knows what we shall be?" as his theme, Reverend Ellison cited the advances of his race in politics, religion, business and other fields of endeavour and said, "Who would have believed, only 15 years ago, that there should be negroes on juries? We are optimistic, religious people and we have hopes for the future. We don't know any more about Africa than what we read. We are Americans, loyal and patriotic, and expect to make our home here forever while treading a path of progress."

#### Appeals For Assistance

Baker, in making an appeal to the white people to assist the colored in their educational and cultural problems, asked for fair consideration by white men in all efforts to promote the South and said, "As a race we have much to do. For every Joe Louis there are a thousand cutthroats; for every Jesse Owens and George W. Carver there are thousands of negroes bound by ignorance. The colored people of Mobile are not satisfied with the advances already made by the negro since he was freed."

One white speaker, Mrs. Frances Starr, a writer from New York, talked to the group—composed of some white people—about a co-operative housing scheme.

J. L. LeFlore, national secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People,

which sponsored the celebration, presented the aims of the N. A. A. C. P. Rev. S. S. Seay, pastor of Pilgrim Rest A. M. E. Church, was master of ceremonies. Other talks and several selections by the church choir and the Mobile Symphony Glee Club were included on the program.



## LOCAL NEGROES HOLD MEETING

Mobile negroes today had celebrated the 67th anniversary of their freedom from slavery, hearing a program of speeches and spiritual music at the Emanuel AME church Monday afternoon. The meeting, sponsored by the Mobile branch of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People, was well attended.

Speakers included Rev. A. E. Ellison, pastor of Big Zion AME church; Prof. B. F. Baker, head of the Mobile County Training school and Mrs. Frances Starr, a New York writer. Rev. S. S. Seay, Pilgrim Rest AME church, was master of ceremonies.

Advancement and problems of the negro race were chief topics of discussions.

Charleston S. C. News & Courier  
January 3, 1939

## CITY WILL RESUME BUSINESS TODAY

Holiday Festivities Ended.  
Mild Weather is Due  
to Continue

Charlestonians will drop back into their normal routine of life today after two successive long holiday week-ends, both of which were marked by comparatively quiet local festivities.

The city's business, commercial and governmental offices will reopen this morning after the New Year holiday. All of the city schools, many of the county schools, the Medical College of the State of South Carolina and Porter Military academy will open today. Registration for the remainder of the year will begin today at the College of Charleston, where classes will be resumed tomorrow. Citadel cadets are to report by 6 p.m. tomorrow and Ashley Hall girls will begin classes tomorrow morning.

Members of the Hibernian society gathered at noon yesterday in Hibernian hall to observe their annual custom of beginning the New Year by dining on hopping John.

A group of Charleston negroes celebrated the emancipation of the American negro with a parade which terminated at Emanuel A. M. E. church in Calhoun street, where

services were held.

The mild weather which prevailed Sunday continued yesterday, as a maximum temperature of 67 degrees, recorded at 3 p. m., raised the mean temperature to 56 degrees, six above normal. The low temperature was 44 degrees, registered at 8 a. m.

Today will be fair and mild, with gentle southwesterly and westerly winds.

So far as is known, the first local baby of 1939 was a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Mountcastle of North Charleston, born at 4:08 a. m. Sunday at St. Francis Xavier infirmary.

### EMANCIPATION IS MARKED

Anniversary of Proclamation Is Celebrated by Negroes

The seventy-sixth anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation was celebrated yesterday afternoon at a meeting attended by 300 Negroes in the Modern African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, 137th Street and Seventh Avenue, under auspices of the New York Chapter of the Civil Liberties League of the Independent Benevolent Order of Elks of the World.

The Rev. T. J. B. Harris, president of the Interdenominational Preachers Meeting, delivered an address in which he said:

"I am sorry to see the white world in such a fix. It seems unbelievable that the white man who yesterday led our fathers to consider him to be the summation of all that was high, wise, good and noble, should today confess to us through his radio, press, theatre, munition plants, cold pogroms and even in his churches that he is all but unworthy to hold aloft the lamp of civilization."

Mobile, Ala., Register  
January 3, 1939

## Mobile's Colored People Celebrate Freedom As Race

76th Anniversary Of Emancipation Observed In Program Of Song And Speeches

Mobile colored residents celebrated the seventy-sixth anniversary of their freedom from slavery yesterday afternoon with a lively program of speechmaking and spirituals at the Emanuel A. M. E. Church.

A large crowd, including some white people, attended the meeting which was held under the auspices of the Mobile branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Two well-known colored leaders, Rev. A. E. Ellison, pastor of Big Zion A. M. E. Church, and Prof. B. F. Baker, head of the Mobile

County Training School, discussed the question of "Whither, Negro?"

### Step Toward Progress

These two principal speakers, who cited President Lincoln's emancipation proclamation of 1863 as the first step toward progress for the colored people, dwelled principally on the problems facing their race today. Rev. S. S. Seay, pastor of Pilgrim Rest A. M. E. Church, was master of ceremonies.

One white speaker, Mrs. Frances Starr, a writer of New York, talked to the group about a co-operative housing scheme.

Rev. Ellison, after pointing out that the race has advanced in education, business, politics, patriotism and religion, made a statement which became the theme of the meeting, a statement of hope and faith for the race—"Who knows what we shall be?"

"Who would have believed, only 15 years ago, that there would be negroes on juries? We are an optimistic, religious people and we have hopes for the future. We don't know any more about Africa than what we have read. We are Americans, loyal and patriotic, and expect to make our home here forever while trodding a path of progress."

### Nations Planning War

"We see the nations of the world preparing for war; we see the white man ready to destroy civilization, a civilization based on false premises. In a new civilization, which recognizes the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of men, who knows what we shall be?"

The fervor of Ellison's speech drew rounds of applause, and even further acclamation when the master of ceremonies cried, "That was one of us talking!"

Baker said that the colored man must be given a fair consideration by white men in all efforts to promote the South, "the nation's No. 1 economic problem."

### Much To Do

"As a race we have much to do," Baker said. "For every Joe Louis there are a thousand cutthroats; for every Jesse Owens and George W. Carver there are thousands of negroes bound by ignorance. The colored people of Mobile are not satisfied with the advances already made by the negro since he was freed."

The head of the county training school appealed to the white people to assist the colored in their educational and cultural problems. "There are more things we have in common than there are differences."

J. L. LeFlore, local secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, presented the aims of the N. A. A. C. P., which include the ending of lynching, ending of peonage and debt slavery of Southern sharecroppers and tenant farmers; ending of disfranchisement, abolition of in-

justices in legal procedure, and equitable distribution of funds for public education.

Brief talks were made by several others, and the church choir and the Mobile Symphony Glee Club, composed of seven voices, sang several numbers, including "Steal Away to Jesus" and "Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho."



# Makes Plea For Negro Soldiers

Rev. A. R. Cooper  
In Stirring Talk  
At Waycross, Ga.

By DR. O. C. WYNN

WAYCROSS, Ga.—The Reverend Allen R. Cooper, pastor of Bethel AME Church, Albany, Georgia, and one of the leading candidates for the bishopric after addressing a capacity audience at Sylvester Sunday, delivered another stirring address to a huge throng of eager listeners at Waycross, Monday afternoon. The eloquent orator, who was elected by the AME bishops in their Council at Montgomery, Ala., last February to be the fraternal messenger to the African Methodist Episcopal conference at Washington, D. C., May, 1940, ably discussed the "Negro in Slavery and Out."

**AFRAID TO SHOW IT**  
Dr. Cooper said, in part: "The Negro possessed some kind of intelligence in slavery but he was afraid to show it until he got out. 'As a race, we list our achievements and record our greatness with pride and honor, but we are not unmindful of the fact, that no race is well balanced without a full measure of good sense. 'We will never be elected to leadership, until good sense teaches us the fine art of fellowship, and the existing dissensions among us ought to be effaced by everlasting oblivion.'"

Referring to President Roosevelt's defense proposal, the speaker said: "President Roosevelt has made a wonderful leader for this great nation, but if the American Government hopes to remain properly defended against foreign invasion, it must furnish the American Negro soldier an opportunity to exhibit his genius and skill in every de-

partment of our American military forces."

The speaker concluded: "We are of the opinion that the opposers of the passage of the Anti-Lynching Bill should Lynch their little-ness and march into the next session of the United States Congress, resolved to pass whatever kind of bill that will put an end to lynching in this country forever."

## DR. COOPER ADVISES CHURCH MEMBERS

ALBANY, Ga.—(SNS)—Dr. Allen R. Cooper, pastor of Bethel AME Church, advised his congregation Sunday that the best New Year's resolution was to "Fear God and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man."

The popular pastor said, in part: There are countless resolutions made each year but very few are kept. Solomon furnishes the world with the best resolution in the language of the text and destroys forever the influence of all light-weight scientists who doubt the existence of Jehovah. Solomon was a philosopher number one so far as human knowledge is concerned and if he could bow to God, then these thin-brained infidels should rush forever."

Dr. Cooper said, in conclusion, that "Every man who fears God and keeps His commandments always, sooner or later, comes out on top."

## Urge President To Name Negro Commissioner

## Groups Pass Resolution At 75th Emancipation Celebration

WASHINGTON, D. C.—That President Roosevelt appoint a Negro as a Commissioner for the District of Columbia was one of the resolutions passed last Friday at a joint celebration of the 75th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation sponsored by the United Government Employees and the Elks Civil Liberties League. The resolution was submitted by Edgar G. Brown, head of the United Government Employees, and was one of the main speakers at the celebration, held at the Shiloh Baptist Church. Other speakers included Senator Lo-

gan Democrat of Kentucky, and Senator Schwartz (Democrat) of Wyoming.

Dr. Charles A. Marshall, district deputy of Elks, outlined the purpose of the national celebration by more than 1,000 Civil Liberties units which will advocate the emancipation of colored citizens economically by use and understanding of civil rights and responsibilities.

## MISSING PAGES FROM HISTORY

HENRY WINFIELD WHEELER

## THE EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

Seventy-six years ago, one of the greatest documents in history was signed by Abraham Lincoln, then President of the United States of America. The country was drenched in fraternal blood. The reason for this great calamity was that one man thought he should own another man and exploit him for profit—chattel slavery.

The ray of light from a fixed star millions of miles away illuminates myriads of worlds of darkness that man has never discovered, but more wonderful than that, is the mind of man. Abraham Lincoln, born in extreme poverty in the backwoods of Kentucky, was a graduate from the school of hard knocks and rail-splitting. So miraculous was his rise that his contemporaries were confounded by his logic and left speechless by his reparation.

The millions of Negro slaves were an overwhelming balance in the scales of the Confederate states during the Civil War. For two years these men and women had planted the cotton and the corn, protected the homes of their masters and built forts for them, but now the men were being seriously considered as soldiers.

President Lincoln said in his inaugural address on March 4, 1861: "I have no purpose directly or indirectly to interfere with the institution of slavery in the states where it exists. I believe I have no legal right to do so, and I have no inclination to do so." He further said that he was elected on that platform. Lincoln hated slavery intensely, but he was not an abolitionist. His utterances in various speech-

es portray the trend of his mind in the matter: "One section of our country believes slavery is right and ought to be extended while the other believes it is wrong and ought not to be extended."

The campaign of 1862 had been disastrous to the Federal cause. The Union generals had been defeated in one engagement after another. Lincoln had tried all kinds of conciliatory measures toward bringing the southern states back into the Union. He even had a plan for buying the slaves from their masters and colonizing them, but his efforts were futile. Although he hated slavery he was willing to compromise. He did not believe in the equality of the races, and said: "There is a physical difference between the two races." But he knew that "a house divided against itself could not stand." He realized that the fate of the Union was jeopardized by the great advantage which the slaves gave the rebels over the Federal forces, and in desperation he demanded that they lay down their arms by Sept. 22, 1862, or in one hundred days he would liberate the slaves in the rebellious states. So on the first day of January, 1863, the nations of the world awoke from their lethargy to read the Emancipation Proclamation—"Now therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, by virtue of the power in me invested, as commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States, in time of actual rebellion against the authority and government of the United States and as a fit and necessary war measure for suppressing rebellion, do on this first day of January in the year of our Lord. One thousand, eight hundred and sixty-three, and in two thousand years ago, His

accordance with my purpose so to do, publicly proclaim for the full period of one hundred days from the first day above mentioned, order, and designate as the states and parts of states wherein the people thereof, respectively, are this day in rebellion against the United States, the following, to-wit: Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana, except the parishes of St. Bernard, Plaquemine, Jefferson, etc.—" Missouri slaves were not freed by this proclamation. Another provision of the proclamation is stated for clarity: "And I hereby enjoin upon the people so declared to be free, to abstain from all violence unless in necessary self-defense, and I recommend to them that in all cases when allowed, they labor faithfully for reasonable wages."

Reflect with me on the Emancipation Proclamation for a moment. Four million, four hundred and forty-one thousand, seven-hundred and thirty Negro men, women and children liberated by a great Democratic government and left to sink or swim, live or die, survive or perish after two hundred and forty-four years of unrequited toil. It was ingratitude to an innocent people. And when the bullet of an assassin struck down Lincoln, and Secretary Stanton said, "Now he belongs to the ages," it was because that my grandfather and grandmother, with thousands of others, did not hang their harps on the willow nor sit down by the river and weep or wait for God to send them manna, but instead, the black men went forth to turn the tide of battle of Lookout Mountain, at Vicksburg and at Appomattox, and the women went forth with a song on their lips: "Thank God A' Mighty, I'm free at last!" took up the hoe, the plow and the broom and bent their backs over the wash-tub that they were able to help their own destiny. And may we say here in a spirit of charity and gratitude to Abraham Lincoln, that though the great Captivity was a war measure, he was an instrument of Divinity and from that moment he grew in stature and breadth of vision, as the following words illustrate:

"We fervently pray that this terrible scourge, or war may speedily pass away, but if God wills that it continue until every drop of blood drawn by the lash shall be repaid by blood drawn by the sword, as was said two thousand years ago, His



Judgments are altogether just and righteous."

Today all thinking men are seeking a new birth of freedom. While tyranny, oppression, race hatred and greed seem to stalk as high-handed giants in various countries, we conscientiously believe that America, whose heart is true, is destined to lead the world in proclaiming universal brotherhood and universal freedom.

Next week — AN HONEST MAN AND A SAGE.

NOTE: In last week's article, "Colored Federal Employees," the following names were omitted: Wayman Smith, Jr., deputy customs collector; Edward McKinney, part time at produce and Johnnie Jones, clerk who was responsible for the pouch distribution of out-going mail.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Daily Times  
January 4, 1939

## NEGROES OBSERVE EMANCIPATION DAY

Proclamation Liberating the  
Slaves Commemorated—

Rev. Barker Speaks

"The same industry, patience, united effort and faith in God that wrought wonders for our forefathers, and brought us safely to our present status as citizens in these United States must be exercised in the future, to assure our ranking position in the ever-changing life of this nation," a large audience of Negro Emancipation day celebrators at Chickamauga, Ga., was told Monday by the Rev. Jesse Belmont Barber, principal speaker.

The Rev. Barber spoke on "The Next Seventy-Five Years," at the community-wide celebration held all day at the colored Rosenwald-built High school in commemoration of the seventy-sixth anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation freeing Negro slaves in this country.

The occasion attracted several hundred Negroes from Rome, La Fayette and surrounding towns. The program was directed by C. D. Haslerig, with the Rev. J. C. Calhoun in charge of activities.

Dinners were served to a number of ex-slaves from the surrounding territory.

The Chickamauga celebration, according to the Rev. Barber, was the only celebration of its kind held by Negroes in this immediate area. For the first time in years Chattanooga Negroes passed observance of the day without demonstration or public meeting.

Formerly celebrations were conducted by the Negro Business league, and in latter days by the Interdenominational Ministers' alliance. In November the alliance announced its intention not to sponsor the program.

Savannah, Ga. News  
January 2, 1939

## NEGROES TO STAGE BIG PARADE TODAY

Are Celebrating the Emancipation Proclamation

Various negro organizations of the city have joined together to stage a parade today in celebration of the anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, which was signed January 1, 1863. As January 1 was Sunday, the parade was postponed until today.

The line will form at West Broad and Gwinnett streets at 11 o'clock with Past Commander L. W. Sales as grand marshal. Among the groups participating will be the Emancipation Association, Social Clubs Union and patriotic, civic, fraternal and religious organizations.

At the conclusion of the parade there will be a program given in the Tabernacle Baptist Church on Alice street between Jefferson and Montgomery streets. The Rev. D. W. Stephens will be master of ceremonies.

The program will be as follows: Introduction of the president, Rev. L. M. Terrill, D. D., by H. E. Hagins; hymn, Rev. J. L. Martin, D. D.; prayer, Rev. J. L. Mack; selection, Tabernacle Baptist choir; Scripture reading, Rev. L. A. Lark, D. D.; hymn, Rev. E. J. Hankerson; welcome in behalf of the church, E. D. Davis, Jr.; song, "America," audience; introduction of master of ceremonies by Rev. H. M. Parker, D. D.; remarks by the master of ceremonies, Rev. D. H. Stephens; national negro anthem, audience; reading of Emancipation Proclamation, Ada Dunbar; solo, Viola Oliver; introduction of speaker by Rev. C. R. Dinkins; Emancipation address by Rev. C. P. Hobbs, D. D.; pastor of Bethel A. M. E. Church; selection by CCC quartet; benediction.

Spartanburg A. C. Herald  
January 1, 1939

## NEGROES TO HOLD SESSION MONDAY

An appreciation of the emancipation celebration will be held at noon Monday at the Silver Hill Methodist negro church on North Converse street here.

Stanley Victor McDowell of Asheville, N. C., well known speaker, will deliver the principal address.

Group singing of negro spirituals and other music is on the program.

The meeting is being sponsored by the Colored Civic league. Those in charge of the program include Rev. A. M. Means, Rev. P. E. Wingo, Rev. B. F. Steward, Rev. C. H. Lyles, Bertha Lee Rivers, J. E. Simpson, J. A. Todd and Booker T. Smith.

Chattanooga, Tenn. News  
January 4, 1939

## Negroes Observe Emancipation Day

A large group of Negroes observed Emancipation Day Monday at Chickamauga, Ga., where the Rev. Jesse B. Barber was the principal speaker.

The Rev. Barber's subject was "The Next Seventy-Five Years," and he spoke at the community-wide celebration held all day at the colored Rosenwald-built high school in commemoration of the seventy-sixth anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation freeing the Negro slaves in this country.

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Columbus, Ga. Entrepreneur Star  
January 2, 1939

## Negroes Celebrate Emancipation Today

The 76th anniversary of the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation will be celebrated by negroes in this section at exercises at the First African Baptist church this afternoon.

The church is located at Ninth street and Fifth avenue. The exercises will begin at 1:30 o'clock. Dr. Harry V. Richardson, chaplain at Tuskegee Institute, will make the Emancipation address. Rev. J. C. Solomon, pastor of St. Mark A. M. E. church, will be master of ceremonies. Rev. W. A. Reid is general chairman.

## Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation America's Second Declaration Of Independence

Continuing our editorial discussion of President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation; freeing the slaves January 1st, 1863; first, we want to enter the race's solemn protest against the position of some of our so-called leaders' effing, is worth more to the youth of the race, than the freedom and citizenship that President Lincoln gave them. The sacredness and origin of the Negro college professor said to us pressed indelibly in the hearts and minds of the youth of the race; for the definite purpose of raising race, by letting little self opinion-genealogy. We must get it over to the Negro youth, what Emancipation Day is all about. What the background is, and what it is celebrated; the price and sacrifice made and paid for Negro freedom, and who made the sacrifice and paid the price. Instead of giving empty rewards with no sentimental reason behind them; and taking up collections for ulterior purposes.

The day should be spent in recounting the hardships, sufferings, privations and tearful prayers of our parents for two-hundred years. The valor and bravery; death and blood shed by the Union soldiers on the battlefield for the freedom of a helpless race. Lincoln and Douglas should be eulogized for giving their lives that Negroes might be free, and their names written in the hearts of Negro posterity, as the heroes of black America's freedom.

Emancipation from slavery, is the beginning of race consciousness and race pride. This is the point where men and races discover God; then discover themselves, and their ability to take their places in the world along side of other men and races. Men and races that forget themselves, and who are not proud of their ancestors, and too proud to pick up where their fathers laid down; because they had not been polished, never get very far in the things that real men do. As Dr. Washington and Dean Hill would put it, you must be proud of the distance you have come, before you will know where you are going. Don't forget mama and daddy. They wrought in their day and time; you have

wrought nothing in your day and time. Study the science of inheritance; geology and genealogy. You can't live up in the air; you must have something to stand upon. Don't be fool enough to say, the meal ticket is worth more to the youth of the race, than the freedom and citizenship that President Lincoln gave them. The sacredness and origin of the Negro college professor said to us pressed indelibly in the hearts and minds of the youth of the race; for the definite purpose of raising race, by letting little self opinion-genealogy. We must get it over to the Negro youth, what Emancipation Day is all about. What the background is, and what it is celebrated; the price and sacrifice made and paid for Negro freedom, and who made the sacrifice and paid the price. Instead of giving empty rewards with no sentimental reason behind them; and taking up collections for ulterior purposes.

There is no place on our Emancipation program, for self admiration clubs; literary guilds and dancing frats that solemnly resolve among themselves, that we are the leaders of the race. This empire of social leaders generally pass the time in their meetings throwing bouquets at one another and telling each other how smart they are. They have never been able to sell themselves to the public, because it is their policy to go to the masses to get money to shine and to support their class. They are like the Eagle and the buzzard, never come down to the ground until they want something to eat; that is why they have no following and have to hang onto the coat tails of the common folks to get a hearing when they want the public to see them.

Emancipation Day is a serious proposition born of inspiration, to inspire in the hearts of the youth pride in race, love of country and the discovery of worth in the individual. It is not an occasion for individuals to show their superior knowledge over the masses or for racketeers to make money for themselves. It is an occasion of solemnity of which men are proud of the suffering and sacrifices they have made to bring them up to the success of the day they celebrate. The day should not be side stepped for things of less value, or for men to show their much

freedom be theme of the January occasion. Let the individual rule the individual who undertakes to show his smartness exposes his ignorance. Let the lives and work of Abraham Lincoln, Fred Douglas and the prayers of our forefathers all of which brought us

—Union-Review.



# After 74 Years

(AN EDITORIAL)

"Bitter the road we trod,  
Bitter the chastening rod  
Felt in days when hope unborn had died."

—James Weldon Johnson.

TODAY MARKS another milestone in the march of a struggling people toward that goal attained by leading races of the earth. It was decreed in the early advent of the republic that the nation could not long endure half slave and half free. It must be said in keeping the records straight, some of the colonies were opposed to slavery. South Carolina and Virginia passed laws against the evils in their provinces.

It was a great commercial venture for the ship builders of Liverpool, England and the crown vetoed the efforts of South Carolina and Virginia in their struggle for keeping slavery out of their confines.

It was the brave Frederick Douglass who caught the spirit of Sir William Wilberforce and his school in the old world and carried on with brilliant success in making the sentiment which gave us Harriet Beecher Stowe, Wendell Phillips and Abraham Lincoln.

After that bitter struggle between the states which ceased hostilities in 1865 the group has steadily made progress. Often friendless, forgotten and denied the opportunities of decent existence and educational facilities, we have not given up the struggle in deep despair.

The hard school that followed immediately upon the heels of slavery, tempered the souls of the weary travelers to the extent no race on the face of the earth has ever been able to weather the tempest and endure the hardships with such marked success.

The great story of "Up From Slavery" reads like a novel and not only the South, the country at large but the world should feel proud of the contribution of the colored race. It has made bricks without straw and on every hand has insisted, in spite of the outrages, and lawlessness practiced upon it, an 'unparalleled devotion' and an 'unstinted loyalty' to the flag and the government of the United States.

We pause today in thanksgiving for the freedom that has come to us and in celebration for the victories achieved. The dawn of a new day is upon us and on every hand are the evidences of faith, struggle and untiring effort. We have made our mistakes as other people.

We have been outlawed and held down by those who possess lesser moral and poorer vision, but through it all we have not fallen by the way.

The mission of this day, celebrated so widely in our churches and school, is by no means an effort to keep alive before the young of our group the institution of slavery. We are striving to get away from the memory of the clutches that held our forebearers. Rather it is the emphasis of the powerful strength and courage that carried a benighted people through the dark wilderness of sin into the blessed sunlight of Hope and Progress.

The day will be marked with those events becoming grateful people. Before them lies the great task of carrying on what has been so brilliantly begun.

Let us hope that the year will be marked with such legislation from the national congress as will make the country safe for all citizens, regardless of race and religion. This will come as a reward for the persistent faithfulness and loyalty of a struggling group.

So we go into the new epoch and the new year with renewed vigor and Hope, forgetting our mistakes and theills that have come to beset us and "Looking unto Jesus as the author of our Faith."

## MOBILE'S COLORED PEOPLE

### CELEBRATE FREEDOM AS RACE

#### 76th Anniversary of Emancipation

Observed in Program of Song and Speeches.

Mobile colored residents celebrated the seventy-sixth anniversary of their freedom from slavery yesterday afternoon with a lively program of speechmaking and spirituals at the Emanuel AME Church.

A large crowd, including some white people, attended the meeting, which was held under the auspices of the Mobile branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Two well-known colored leaders, Rev. A. E. Ellison, pastor of Big Zion AME Church, and Prof. B. F. Baker, School, discussed the question of head of the Mobile County Training School, discussed the question of "Whither, Negro?"

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people, dwelled principally on the problems facing their race today. Rev. S. S. Seay, pastor of Pilgrim Rest AME Church, was master of ceremonies.

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## 3,000 Negroes Observe Emancipation Day

**TAPPAHANNOCK**—The Emancipation Day celebration, held annually here by Negroes of Northern Tidewater, drew about 3,000 visitors to this little town of about 500 persons yesterday. Automobile licenses indicated that they came from about a dozen States.

The parade was about a mile long, and was witnessed by spectators that thronged the sidewalks and followed in its wake. The procession was headed by a woman who gave the commands of march for the band and the flag bearer that immediately followed her.

Music was furnished by the Virginia Industrial School Band, aided by 16 school children singing from a decorated truck. These were followed by a Negro post of the American Legion.

This celebration, which has been held here for many years, always has been singularly free from disturbances, good order being vigorously maintained by the sponsors.

The address of welcome at the Courthouse was given by the Mayor of the town.

Boydton, Va., Times  
April 14, 1939

## Of Interest To Colored Readers Emancipation Day Attracts Crowd To Boydton 10th

(By Mrs. P. M. Tucker)

### BOYDTON COLOREDL—

Mr. James Puryear of Washington, D. C., formerly of Boydton visited his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Morton.

Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Maddux of St. Paul's School, Lawrenceville Va., were among the Easter guests who visited Boydton.

Mrs. B. J. Watkins of Danville, formerly Miss Lucy Reid of Boydton, has been under the doctor's care but we are glad to know that she is improving and will soon be out again.

The Presbyterian Church which Mrs. Watkins is a member, had Memorial Services on Palm Sunday and her parents, the late Mr. and Mrs. Leander Reid of Boydton, were remembered by beauti-

ful flowers, palms, lilies, snap-know yourself you will remember dragons and many others. After that civilization began in Africa, the service was over, Mrs. Hattie such as smelting iron, etc., by the Henry, Mrs. Watkin's daughter, natives. Know yourself when you presented her with the flowers. remember that Crispus Attucks, Much appreciation.

Easter Sunday was very beautiful and the lovely songs of the Risen Saviour were heard far and near. Among these was also Trinity P. E. Church, where services were rendered.

Miss Evelyn Johnson of Chula, Va., Amelia County, was the Easter guest of Miss Wilhelmina Hughes.

Mr. William Hughes of Virginia State College, Ettricks, Va., visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Hughes, last week-end.

The Emancipation Celebration which is usually held in Surrender Day, April 9th, was held in Monday, the 10th. A beautiful day, beautiful crowd and very splendid order, not any arrests during the day—that speaks very well for our people.

The Calvary Church Band of Danville, Va., gave music for the day. The program was rendered in the Courthouse. Mr. C. G. Gale served as master of ceremonies. The first speaker was Mr. Edward Hayes, who gave the welcome address which was very good and timely. Mrs. Ann Walker responded in a very oratorical way and closed by reciting the poem "We Are Rising," which was also very good.

The Revs. Messrs. Hughes and Salley made very splendid remarks. After which the speaker, Rev. G. W. Watkins was introduced by Mr. P. M. Tucker, who gave to him all that he deserved. Rev. Watkins came to Boydton last July to take charge as principal of the Bible School, which was supposed to have opened in October, but everything was so misunderstood that he decided to return to his alma mater, Shaw University, Raleigh, N. C., where he has already been made a member of the faculty for the coming term. He will leave in June. Rev. Watkins is a Baptist minister and an orator also. His subject was "Know Thyself." The audience was thrilled at every word spoken. He spoke one hour and thirty minutes which seemed like half that time. Everything spoken was so true and interesting.

He mentioned that when you

Negro, was the first man to die for American independence. He said that any Negro who is educated and cannot give an outline of his own group doesn't deserve being educated. If you know yourself, you will remember that John Chavis, Negro, conducted a school in Raleigh, N. C., in 1830 for white folks. (Read Dan Crawford's "Thinking Black.")

He also stated that when our foreparents, through hardships and trials, looked up to Heaven with heartfelt songs and prayers unto God the Heavens looked

own and answered in songs of Zion such as "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot."

In modest terms he mentioned how the pioneer Negro gave true service by digging ditches, tilling the soil, working in the cotton field, cutting the woods out of the way to make roads for themselves. He said that we are not free yet. That only comes through real thought. God gave us thinkers and we must use them. He stressed living economically and what it means to practice it. He also said when Socrates was once asked the direction to a certain mountain, he pointed the direction and then said, "Do all your walking that way." The Negro has in his hands what he needs, he doesn't have to go to New York to get it—"let down your buckets where you are."

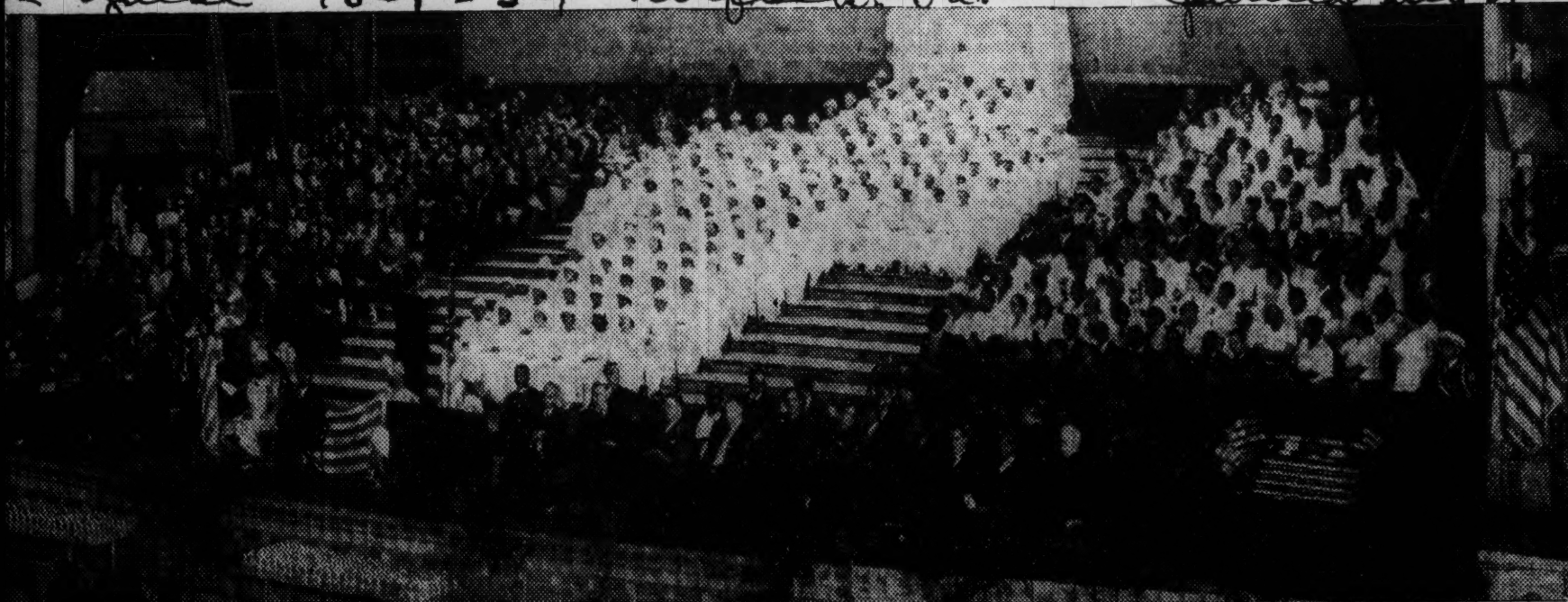
He reminded them of the fact that it was no disgrace to have been a slave. Remember slavery but not with hatred—for "out of the darkness come the great men of tomorrow."

He closed by saying, "work as a unit, unite and act in a group—speak for yourself."



EMANCIPATION CELEBRATIONS- 1939

# Crowd of 7,000, Michaux Human Cross Choir, Feature Jubilee Celebration



DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATION  
EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION  
CONVENTION HALL PHILA.  
SEPTEMBER 27, 1939.



# 7,000 Attend Joint Jubilee Celebration

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Seventy-five years of freedom from slavery

resulting from the adoption of the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and the issuance of the first postage stamp to bear the likeness of a Negro, were jointly celebrated by thousands of Negro and white citizens in a jubilee celebration held at Convention Hall here last week.

More than seven thousand people including persons high in the affairs of the nation, and representatives of every public school in Philadelphia, both white and colored, were present for the celebration on Wednesday night, September 27. Music was furnished by the O. V. Catto (Elks) Military Band, Elder Lightfoot Solomon Michaux's famous Cross Choir, a choral group under the direction of W. Franklin Hoxter, and another chorus under the direction of Prof. James A. Dorsey of Lincoln University, Pa.

## CELEBRATION SPEAKERS

Speakers at the celebration of which Maj. R. R. Wright, Sr., president of the Citizens and Southern Bank and Trust Company, was chairman, included: Hon. Ramsey S. Black, third assistant postmaster general and his assistant, Hon. Roy M. North; Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Dr. Louis Nusbaum, associate superintendent of Philadelphia Public schools; Dr. W. J. Thompson, recorder of deeds of the District of Columbia; Dr. W. L. Wright, president of Lincoln University, Pa.; Bishop David H. Sims, of the first and ninth Episcopal Districts of the A.M.E. Church, and Dr. Elmer A. Carter, editor of "Opportunity" magazine.

Dr. John P. Turner, members of the Philadelphia School Board, presided at the celebration. The invocation was offered by the Rev. Dr. W. C. Williamson, pastor of the White Rock Baptist Church.

One of the most spectacular and impressive scenes was that provided by four girls, two white and two colored, beautifully attired in military costumes, who came out with the United States flag and draped the shoulders of Major Wright in token of his victory in securing the Booker T. Washington postage stamp issue. More than 500 busts of Booker T. Washington were presented to school children representing all of the

public schools of the city by Dr. Wright of Lincoln University.

## MET BY COMMITTEE

Representatives of the United States Post Office Department arrived in Philadelphia, Wednesday afternoon at 3:30 and were met at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel by a committee consisting of Major Wright, his daughter, Mrs. Harriet Wright Lemon, Elder L. S. Michaux, Dr. W. C. Williamson, Magistrate Joseph J. Rainey, Magistrate Edward W. Henry, E. Washington Rhodes, Postmaster Joseph H. Gallagher of Philadelphia, Hobson E. Reynolds, J. Robert Saxon, Dr. W. F. Hoxter, Herbert T. Miller, Councilman James H. Irvin, and others.

The cavalcade of twelve automobiles containing the recognition committee was escorted by motorcycle police to City Hall, where they were received and photographed in the mayor's reception room.

Lauding Booker T. Washington, Editor Carter termed the award a well deserved yet "belated" honor. He spoke of the "stake we have in this democracy" and described it as "the right to participate in every phase of life in this country."

Stating that "emancipation is not an act but a process," Bishop Sims, called the issue of this stamp honoring Booker T. Washington "another step in the emancipation of the Negro."

Mrs. Bethune praised "the democracy under which we live" and gave thanks that "we are sitting under our own vine and fig tree in peace and brotherly love." Citing an important incident in the life of Major R. R. Wright, whose untiring effort was responsible for this stamp issue, and his rise to national fame, Mrs. Bethune stated "this proves that a Negro without one drop of white blood in his veins can be a success."

## PROGRESS PRAISED

Booker T. Washington was termed a man "who just loved folks" by Roy M. North, chief deputy, 3rd assistant postmaster general. He called the stamp a simple little recognition of the progress in so short a period of time.

"One of the ten outstanding educational leaders of the United States" was an except concerning Booker T. Washington as read from a year book on educational leadership by Dr. Nusbaum.

Chattanooga, Tenn. News November 8, 1939

## Negroes to Celebrate

### Emancipation of Slaves

The Negro Business League and the Greater Voters' League will sponsor an emancipation program for colored citizens January 1, C. B. Foster, an officer of the organization, announced today. A meeting has been called for November 13 to make plans for the celebration.

# To Hold Emancipation Celebration Where Dred Scott Case Originated

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 22—One of the first events of the New Year will take place the afternoon of January 1 in the historic old Court House when citizens of this city celebrated the 77th anniversary of the issuance of the Proclamation of Emancipation by President Lincoln, on January 1, 1863.

Headliner of the elaborate program planned for the event will be the Rev. Reverdy C. Ransom, bishop of the A.M.E. church. Other dignitaries will be Sherman D. Scruggs, president of Lincoln university; Mrs. Florence W. R. Usher, well-known social worker; Dr. Eugene A. Hotfelder, of the chamber of commerce, and possibly Mayor Bernard F. Dickman.

Appropriately this celebration of the freeing of the slaves will be held in a building which played an important part in the life of many Missouri slaves. It was on the steps at the east front door of the court building that sales and transfers of slaves and these transactions were approved in session in this same building.

It was also in this court building that the famed Dred Scott case had its beginning, and in the basement are still the old slave dungeons in which the human chattel were kept pending sale.

Today, it is in this same building that one of the city's two Race justices of the peace holds his court, assisted by a Race constable.

The meeting will be held at one o'clock in the rotunda, New Year's Day.